

سنة ١٤٠٠

Talks reported on Cordes' release

BEIRUT (AP) — Beirut newspapers said Monday that "energetic negotiations" were under way to release West German hostage Rudolf Cordes. Several dailies quoted a privately-owned news agency, the Daily News, as saying the Bonn government was engaged in direct contacts with the kidnappers holding Cordes in Beirut. "These energetic negotiations might culminate in Cordes' release within a few days in exchange for releasing Mohammed Ali and Abbas Hamadi," the agency was quoted as saying. Newspapers said the agency cited "sources concerned with the hostages' affair in Lebanon" for its report, but gave no details. The agency is known to have close links with moderate Shi'ite clerics in Lebanon, including Sheikh Mohammad Mehdi Shamseddin, head of Lebanon's Supreme Shi'ite Council, and Sheikh Abdul Amir Kabalan, the sect's senior religious judge. There have been several reports in Lebanese and German newspapers over the last six months predicting Cordes, 53, would soon be released. Cordes, a businessman, was kidnapped Jan. 17 last year. A group calling itself Holy Warriors for Freedom claimed June 8 it had abducted him and said it would release him if the Hamadi brothers were freed.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية. الراي.

Volume 13 Number 3799

AMMAN TUESDAY JUNE 7, 1988, SHAHWAL 23, 1408

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

King receives Ahmad Al Mahdi

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein met in Amman Monday with Ahmad Al Mahdi, a Sudanese dignitary. The audience was in the presence of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan. The King later received British Ambassador to Jordan Anthony Reeve.

Iraq says Iranian helicopter destroyed

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq said Monday its artillery gunners destroyed an Iranian helicopter with shellfire after it landed close to the battlefield. A military spokesman told Baghdad Radio the helicopter gunship "landed in enemy territory close to the gunners' positions." Sunday afternoon, the artillery fire destroyed the aircraft and killed its occupants, the radio station said.

Gandhi leaves Syria

DAMASCUS (AP) — Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi flew to West Germany Monday after a three-day official visit to Syria. The Indian leader, accompanied by his wife, was seen off at Damascus airport by Syrian Prime Minister Mahmoud Al Zoubi and Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharau.

S. Arabia buys French helicopters

PARIS (AP) — Saudi Arabia has signed a contract with the French government to purchase about a dozen Super Puma helicopters equipped with cannons and Exocet missiles, officials confirmed Monday. The French Society for the Export of Armaments, a quasi-governmental agency, said the contract was signed over the weekend. The agreement also covers the sale of an unspecified number of boats. The society did not say how many helicopters were sold. In reporting the agreement, French radio said the contract was for about 4.5 billion francs (\$775 million), but the officials said the contract was for less than this amount.

Shevardnadze in New York

NEW YORK (AP) — Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze arrived in New York Sunday to address a special U.N. session on disarmament later this week. "We have brought what we believe to be interesting and good ideas and proposals to this special session and we will set forth these ideas and suggestions in our statements," he told reporters upon his arrival at Kennedy international airport.

Jalloud, Besharati hold talks

BEIRUT (R) — Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister Ali Mohammad Besharati has held talks with Libya's second in command Abdul Salam Jalloud, the Libyan news agency (JANA) said Monday. JANA gave no details of the talks between Besharati and Jalloud. Besharati arrived in Libya Saturday night.

India begins Sri Lanka pullout

COLOMBO (AP) — India will begin Tuesday to withdraw some of the tanks, artillery pieces and troops sent to Sri Lanka over the past 10 months to enforce an Indian-backed peace accord. Sri Lankan military officers said Monday. An official at the Indian high commission (embassy), who asked that his name not be used, said that at least 3,000 Indian soldiers would be pulled back. India has an estimated 50,000 troops in Sri Lanka.

Australia takes more migrants

CANBERRA (R) — Australia's migrant intake of 128,000 last year was the highest for nearly 40 years and exceeded the country's natural population growth rate. Government statistics Monday showed that immigration accounted for 51 per cent of population growth in 1987 with a natural increase of 126,000 making up the rest. The migrant intake was the highest since 1950.

King expected to explain Jordan's firm stand on Palestinian problem, peace talks

Extraordinary Arab summit opens today

From Abdul Wahab Zubeilat in Algiers and agency dispatches

HIS MAJESTY King Hussein arrived here Monday to attend the extraordinary Arab summit which opens Tuesday during which His Majesty is expected to deliver a major speech explaining Jordan's approach to the Palestinian problem.

The official delegation accompanying the King to the summit includes Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh and Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri. The King and the delegation were greeted upon arrival by Algerian President Chadli Benjedid, the summit host, Arab League Secretary-General Chadli Klibi and senior Algerian officials.

Informed Arab sources said the King would "put an end to speculation concerning Jordan's position on the Palestinian cause" when he addresses Tuesday's opening session of the summit.

The King is expected to reaffirm Jordan's position that it would not be a substitute for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in peace negotiations to settle the Palestinian problem or speak for the Palestinian people but would agree to attend an international peace conference on the Middle East in joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation if all parties agreed. The King is also expected to reaffirm Jordan's total support for the Palestinian people in their uprising against occupation.

The King is also expected to renew the Arab call for an international conference on the Middle East with the participation of the PLO and all other parties involved in the conflict and the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council.

Arab leaders have been holding intensive consultations over the summit, which has brought the Palestinian problem back to the centre-stage of Arab politics after a period in the wilderness when concerns seemed to centre on the Iraq-Iran war.

The PLO has called for outright rejection of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz's plan which fails to envisage a role for the PLO in any Middle East

(Continued on page 5)

Israeli troops conduct mass arrests; schools reopen, protests continue

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli troops arrested dozens of Palestinians during an overnight sweep in the occupied Gaza Strip ahead of a fact-finding mission Monday by the leading American envoy of human rights.

In the occupied West Bank, the Israeli army reopened high schools for over 36,000 students but reports contradicted the army's claim that the reopening signalled a return to normal life in the occupied territories and a waning of the almost seven-month-old Palestinian uprising

Genscher urges U.S.-Soviet agreement on strategic arms

UNITED NATIONS (R) — West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher Monday urged the United States and the Soviet Union to reach agreement before the end of the year on halving their strategic arsenals.

He also said the Eastern bloc's superiority in conventional arms was the root problem of European security. "Further deep cuts in the strategic nuclear weapons of the United States and the Soviet Union are an attainable goal that we strongly support," he told a special session of the General Assembly on disarmament.

"I appeal to the two superpowers to do their utmost to reach agreement before the end of this year on halving their strategic arsenals. Permanent consolidation of strategic stability between the superpowers serves the security interests of all countries," he said.

Genscher said the recent summit meeting in Moscow between President Ronald Reagan and

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev "has given mankind fresh hope."

Six-nation call

In a related development, six national leaders said Monday the world had expected more concrete results from the Moscow summit.

"Without doubt a certain amount of progress was made during their meeting in Moscow. However the international community expected more concrete results as far as arms limitation and disarmament are concerned," the leaders of Sweden, India, Argentina, Greece, Mexico and Tanzania said in a statement released simultaneously in the six capitals.

The statement called for speedy progress in East-West talks on cutting strategic nuclear arms and space weapons and an immediate nuclear test ban.

"Every agreement which allows scope for further nuclear testing is unacceptable to us," said the statement, issued by the so-called Six Nation Initiative.

(Continued on page 5)

Bhutto sees victory in 'free, fair, impartial' elections

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistani opposition leader Benazir Bhutto said Monday that President Zia Ul Haq had made a political error in promising elections her party could win.

"If they are free, fair, impartial and party-based elections we have the opportunity to translate our popularity into a majority in parliament," she told Reuters in an interview.

A government controlled by her Pakistan People's Party (PPP) would decentralise the economic management of the nation and could defuse the tense relationship with neighbouring India, she said.

Bhutto's PPP has been working hard on strategy since May 29, when General Zia surprised everyone, including his own Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo, by unilaterally sacking the government and dissolving

the National Assembly. In 1977, Zia deposed Bhutto's father Zulfikar Ali Bhutto who was later executed on contested murder charges.

Bhutto, however, has emerged as a mature leader of her father's old party, which commands much popular support.

Bhutto, aged 34, looking in contented good health, declined to confirm persistent reports that she is expecting a child.

"It is a private matter. Under Islam there are things which propriety forbids to be discussed," she said.

But when asked if a pregnancy would affect her ability to sustain a gruelling campaign in the scorching heat of a Pakistan summer she replied: "I hope not."

Some political analysts think her reported decision was a factor in Zia's snap decision to hold new elections, on grounds it

could keep his biggest opponent out of the ring.

Zia promised elections within 90 days under the current constitution, but set no date and did not say whether they would be individual-based polls or whether political parties could contest.

Even if parties were allowed to run they could be forced to register under Zia's election commission, seen by the opposition as biased.

"If they are not party-based elections, we cannot translate our popularity into parliamentary strength," said Bhutto, who estimates that the PPP can command 25 to 30 per cent of the popular vote simply on the strength of her party's name.

Zia could yet use his presidential powers to refuse to have an election and carry on with the caretaker government he is now trying to form. But Bhutto said

that would amount to a reimposition of martial law and she believed he had no choice.

"I think Zia has miscalculated. His stock has fallen very low. Even his own supporters are shocked," she said.

Bhutto said that if the PPP gained power, it would set up a federal-based system of economic management, attempt to cut unemployment and inflation, and try to attract more capital investment to develop Pakistan's manufacturing base.

She condemned Zia's pledge to speed up Islamisation of Pakistan, saying it would exacerbate already bloody sectarian rioting that now splits the country.

She said a civilian government, as opposed to Zia's military-backed authority, would also make it easier to improve ties with India, with which Pakistan has fought three wars.



His Majesty King Hussein, who left for Algeria Monday to attend the extraordinary Arab summit opening there Tuesday, is seen off by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan (Petra photo)

North Yemen to hold first general elections

SANAA (R) — North Yemen took a fresh step towards full democracy Monday when scores of candidates registered for the country's first free, direct elections to a legislative council.

Diplomats said one of the first acts of the 154-member consultative council, to be elected July 5, would be to endorse President Ali Abdullah Saleh as ruler for a third five-year term.

Saleh, a former army officer elected in July 1978 by the current, appointed 99-member constituent People's Assembly, will appoint one-fifth of the members of the new council.

The diplomats said Saleh's reelection as president would underwrite the continuation of a slow process towards democracy in a country plagued by coups and



Ali Abdullah Saleh, whose predecessor was killed by a South Yemeni envoy.

Iranian official wants probe into war setbacks

NICOSIA (R) — A senior Iranian official has called for a probe into Iran's recent battlefield defeats as Tehran's new military commander promised to streamline the armed forces.

In demanding the investigation, senior parliamentarian Mehdi Karrubi was quoted by Tehran's Jomhuri Eslami newspaper as saying anyone responsible for Iran's reverses should be punished.

The call at a Sunday rally followed the June 2 appointment of Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani as acting commander of Iran's armed forces.

Political analysts said spiritual leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini named Rafsanjani to the post in a bid to turn the tide in the long-running conflict after two major Iraqi victories on the

southern front since April. Rafsanjani, with a brief to streamline the army and Revolutionary Guard, promised Saturday to make "significant changes."

Karrubi, speaking at a rally to mark the anniversary of a 1963 religious uprising, called on Rafsanjani to order a detailed investigation of recent events on the fronts.

"We will not gloss over these developments... if there have been shortcomings or negligence, anyone responsible must be punished so that such events are not repeated," he said.

Karrubi, who also heads the martyrs' foundation which cares for families of soldiers killed in the war, did not indicate who or which branch of the armed forces were to blame.

Heavy fighting reported between Soviets, Mujahedeen

ISLAMABAD (AP) — Heavy fighting continues in Afghanistan's northeastern province, and up to 100 Soviet soldiers were reported killed in a clash with Afghan Mujahedeen fighters, a news agency said Monday.

Baghland city, the provincial capital of Baghland, has been under siege for weeks. Mujahedeen have captured the governor, Gulbaddin Hekmatyar, current chairman of the seven-party rebel

alliance, said the northern city's collapse would be a coup for its fighters.

Agency Afghan Press, a privately operated Pakistani news service, claimed more than 100 Soviets and 15 Mujahedeen were killed in a battle on a strategic roadway when the Mujahedeen repulsed an attack on their headquarters near the city May 27. There was no independent confirmation of the report.

Departing Soviet troops travel the strategic Salang Highway, the only road out of Afghanistan's capital city of Kabul north to the Soviet Union. A northern city would give the Mujahedeen a stronghold should speculation prove true that Afghan President Najibullah is eyeing the north as a possible refuge if Kabul is overrun.

Soviet troops, which entered Afghanistan in 1979, began pulling out of Afghanistan May 15. Official Radio Kabul, monitored in Islamabad, said late Sunday that government troops have overrun three Mujahedeen groups in the southeastern provinces of Zabul and Kandahar, and in the northwestern province of Faryab.

Mujahedeen commanders say they have been preparing a major offensive on Kandahar, Afghanistan's second largest city. According to Agency Afghan Press, villages to the southwest of Kandahar city have been heavily bombed.

Mahdi issues warning to Kenya

KHARTOUM (AP) — Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi Monday demanded that Kenya put an end to contacts with southern Sudanese rebels or else his country would reciprocate. Mahdi, in a policy statement to the constituent assembly, said his government was organising relief efforts to help victims of famine and the five-year-old civil war in the south. "We addressed the International Committee of the Red Cross to undertake transportation of relief to war-affected areas with safe passage and this means we do not accept organisations or neighbouring countries to deal with the rebel organisation whatever the humanitarian names they have," Mahdi said. "In this connection, we addressed neighbouring Kenya to close down relief offices of the rebels in Kenya or we will consider that an interference in Sudan's internal affairs and we will reciprocate similarly," he added. "We are keen on Kenya's friendship but we are more keen on Sudan's security and we would like Kenya to exchange with us goodness and not compel us to exchange evil," Mahdi warned. He did not specify how Sudan would react if Kenya did not comply to his demand.

Sudan shakes up army leadership, page 5

Shultz visits Syria, says superpowers to pursue Mideast talks

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz discussed his peace proposal with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad Monday and later told reporters the United States and the Soviet Union would continue discussions on a Middle East peace settlement.

However, Shultz reiterated Washington's rejection of the idea of setting up an independent Palestinian state.

Shultz spent about four hours in Damascus, half the time in discussions with Assad, and flew back to Egypt later in the afternoon for a tour of ancient monuments in Luxor.

Shultz briefed Assad about the recent superpower summit in Moscow, and told Arab reporters that the United States and Soviet

Union had "agreed to continue to address ourselves to the Middle East issues."

"We will have some continuing discussions, probably before long, on an intensive basis," Shultz said.

The secretary cautioned that "it's not for the Soviet Union and the United States to resolve the problems here. It's for the countries in the region to resolve their problems."

But he noted that the superpowers "have a certain amount of influence, and if we see some things in a parallel way it will probably make an impact."

The United States has dropped its former opposition to a Soviet role in a Middle East peace conference, but it objects to an active

(Continued on page 5)

France evenly split after first round polls

PARIS (Agencies) — France emerged evenly split between left and right Monday from the first round of a general election, setting the scene for hectic electoral horse-trading ahead of next Sunday's decisive final ballot.

President Francois Mitterrand's Socialists failed to gain the landslide victory predicted by opinion polls in the wake of his triumphant reelection as head of state last month.

But computer projections from the first vote Sunday predicted the Socialists will have a slim majority of 30-40 seats in the 577-member National Assembly after the final ballot, though a record abstention rate of 34 per cent in the first round made forecasting more difficult.

A total of 120 assembly seats were won in the first round by candidates who took 50 per cent of the vote in their constituencies. Candidates in the second round will win by a simple majority.

The first ballot gave new hope

to the conservatives and increased pressure for electoral pacts within the left and right blocs, each with about 49 per cent of the votes cast, to ensure the most possible seats for each camp.

"The French must confirm their will on Sunday not to give all the levers of power to the Socialists," said former President Valery Giscard d'Estaing.

The Communists and Socialists held separate strategy meetings in preparation for an accord to provide the maximum number of seats for each.

Extreme-right leader Jean-Marie Le Pen said Monday he wanted to work together with the centre-right parties to defeat the Socialists in the runoff.

Le Pen's party, despite getting about 10 per cent of the vote, seemed unlikely to win any seats in next Sunday's runoff, in which any candidate who drew at least 12.5 per cent in the first round is eligible to compete.

Philippine senate okays anti-nuclear legislation

MANILA (AP) — The Philippine senate gave final approval Monday to a bill banning nuclear weapons and nuclear-equipped warships from the country in a move aimed at U.S. military bases in this country.

Similar legislation is pending in the house of representatives. Nineteen senators gave their approval to the bill on the third and final reading. Three voted against the measure and one senator, Edgardo Angara, abstained.

The bill, which received preliminary approval last month, sets prison terms of up to 30 years for importing nuclear components.

Supporters said the measure was aimed at the six U.S. military installations in the Philippines. The United States refuses to confirm or deny whether it has deployed nuclear weapons in the Philippines.

"The Philippines should not be a promoter of the deadly arms race," Salonga said. "We should never be part of the problem. We

should be part of the solution." Senator Wigberto Tanada, the chief author of the bill and a longtime opponent of the U.S. bases, said the legislation would contribute "to the ongoing process for detente, denuclearisation and disarmament in this part of the world."

Opposition senator Juan Ponce Enrile, a former defence minister, said he supported the bill because "the presence of nuclear weapons in our territory is inconsistent with the national interest."

Enrile criticised President Corason Aquino for allegedly failing to enforce a provision in the new Philippine constitution which states that the country opposes nuclear weapons "consistent with the national interest."

Legal experts are divided over whether the phrase "consistent with the national interest" makes the provision less than an unequivocal nuclear weapons ban.

Soviet 'threat' to East Asia growing, Carlucci tells Japan

TOKYO (Agencies) — U.S. Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci said Monday that the Soviet military threat was still growing, adding: "Summitry is no substitute for security."

Carlucci, in his first major address since last week's Moscow summit, told a press luncheon in Tokyo that the Soviet military remained an offensive force in spite of Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev's "perestroika" reform drive.

"The Soviet threat to this part of the world (East Asia) is significant, and it is growing," he said. Carlucci said the summit had provided an opportunity for valuable exchanges between the Un-

ited States and the Soviet Union, but added: "Better relations must be built on a strong foundation — our ability to defend ourselves and our interests. Summitry is no substitute for security."

"The dialogue is a healthy one, but we as yet see no tangible change in Soviet force structure, in the offensive configuration of their forces," he said. "Nor do we see any change in the massive amounts of investment going into the Soviet military machine."

Carlucci said Gorbachev had made it clear that his reforms were not aimed at changing the basic structure of the Soviet system, but at trying to make that system more efficient.

A semi nomadic heritage

The following article is part six of Ammar Khammash's exhibition catalogue entitled *Notes on Village Architecture in Jordan*, which the Jordan Times is serialising. The work was part of the requirement for his Bachelor degree from the University of Southwestern Louisiana (USL). Photos and sketches appearing with these articles were first exhibited at USL in March 1986. The publication of the book was funded by The Royal Endowment for Culture and Education, of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation. The book is available for sale at the foundation's head office at the Housing Bank Complex.

Hmud

The Site
LOCATED 15 kilometres north-east of Karak and 5.5 kilometres east of the "King's Highway", Hmud, with the neighbouring village of Smakiyeh, marks the eastern edge of the fertile land of the Moab Plateau. The land east of Hmud is mostly arid with rough topography that contains little of the fertile soil of the plains west of Hmud. This rough topography is caused by many small valleys that zigzag and deepen as they proceed northeast to meet Wadi El Mujib. Moving from west to east towards the edge of the plateau, one finds the village of Hmud on the side of the first relatively deep valley, Wadi Hmud. The location of Hmud is significant, for one sees here the last most eastern example of stone architecture of its period before the beginning of the desert. Thus Hmud marks the end of the semi-nomadic agricultural land and the beginning of the Bedouin land.

The area is rich in basalt stone that appears on the surface of the flat land. Other kinds of limestone and flint are exposed in clearly visible layers at the sides of the eroded valleys. The dry valley east of Hmud provided a

good bit of the stone used to build the village. Not only did both sides of the valley function as a natural quarry, but also, in many places, a naturally shaped, cantilevered layer of rock provided the ceilings and the back walls of human-size shelters, improved by adding one more man-made wall. These shelters were used by shepherds.

In spring, black irises grow in clusters by the sides of the black asphalt roads leading to Hmud. Among the wide selection of flowers of that land, the black iris seems the most remarkable, blending perfectly with the asphalt roads and the dark basalt stones.

The village

The best view one can have of Hmud is from the east from which the village appears well displayed on the side of a hill. It reads as a one-piece complex made of cubes that are similar in size and orientation: The roofs of the houses on the highest part of the hill appear of similar height, while the lower edge of the village steps down, following the terrain and ending in a random line. On the lower edge is the only two-story structure built of traditional material. This house,

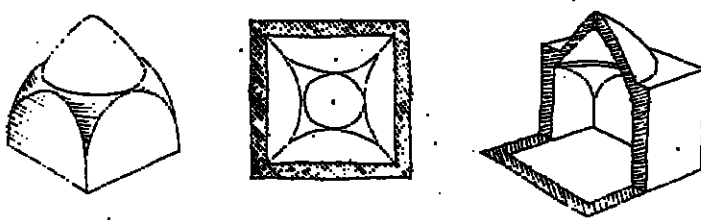
built in 1921, is the last house in southeast Hmud. The overall appearance of the village is, so far, intact. Concrete is hardly present since all the new concrete houses are placed closer to the road that runs west of Hmud. Unfortunately, this new development is setting the direction of growth to the west—as usual, on agricultural land. (The same applies in the neighbouring village of Smakiyeh.) The exterior appearance of the traditional structures is characterised by the random mixture of white limestone and black basalt stone—a look that not only reflects the availability of both kinds of building stones in the immediate environment, but also helps the houses to be part of the natural landscape rather than foreign objects. As in all Jordanian villages, looking at the stone walls from the west gives a different impression from looking at them from the east. The western view is clearer, and, in the case of Hmud, a sharp contrast between the black and the white stones gives the west view a poignant vividness. This difference in appearance is caused by the direction of rain that comes every winter to wash the village walls facing west, while the walls facing east have been accumulating dust since the beginning of this century.

The house

Hmud offers one of the most impressive examples of the traditional "Jordanian" house. It is a house in excellent condition; its mud "furniture" is intact and complete. Both the portable mud pieces and the built-in shelves and wheat bins are still there, richly ornamented with crosses and abstractions of plants. The size of the house is relatively small in comparison to the average size of a typical Hmud house, nevertheless, it hides within its small rectangular limits a collection that is rarely found under one roof.

The mukhtar of Hmud lived here in the late '40s and early '50s. Khalaf Khalil Al Halaseh was most likely the last mukhtar to oversee a full village, for by 1950, the slow migration away from the villages had started. The house now belongs to the mukhtar's grandon, Haidar, who teaches art at the Hmud school. Walking in the village one can easily miss this house; nothing from outside hints of the contents. Located somewhere in the middle of a complex layout of houses and courtyards, the site is not at all significant. The neighbourhood has four caves, all with their entrances facing south and some with vaulted entrances. The house sits on the western side of a rectangular courtyard that has two small rooms on the northern side, the side of a large house on the east side, and an opening to the walkway on the south. This well defined open space is divided into two parts, allowing one of the rooms to function almost independently.

Village Architecture in Jordan



The interior of the mukhtar's house is dark and mystic. It takes a while for one's eyes to adjust to the darkness which only gradually lightens to reveal the rich interior details while some features of the room remain in total darkness. One first notices a long grain storage unit made of six bins built together. This piece is free-standing, 70 centimetres away from the back wall; it appears as the most dominant part of the interior. Unlike the rectangular grain bins in the Ajlun area, this is built of a mud and hay mixture without any wooden frame or skeleton. This way of building grain bins, more used in villages in south Jordan, allows a free expression of organic forms giving the grain bins individual character. In the Hmud house only the main piece facing the door is an independent object; the rest of the bins are plastered between the arches to separate the hay storage areas from the main living space. This main grain storage unit is called

"sandug". It is well ornamented with abstractions of plants and with crosses meant to protect the crop. Weavings and daytime bedding are stored on top of the sandug. Stacked in a neat way, they work as a cover to protect the grain and as a visual composition that enhances the overall aesthetics of the house. Other mud containers are portable: The flour "kuara", the "mehdan", and the "mogadeh". The flour kuara in the mukhtar's house is placed to one side on some stones. It has an ornamented face and a lid also made of mud. The mehdan is a box-like butter container that also sits on stones and has a lid. The mogadeh is a small fire container, 20 to 25 centimetres in diameter, light enough to be carried and placed anywhere in the house and stored when not in use. Crop storage is a vital issue in Hmud. In the mukhtar's house,

elders, "The oldest house in Hmud is the house of Ibrahim Al Thawaher, [who] was the first to build. ... Before him, everybody lived in hair tents, 1907." The church used to sit alone on the land south of the village until the new concrete post office and modern houses were added. It must have been standing by itself, outside the village fabric, with its door facing north to the village. A public facility, the church has no courtyard or any defined piece of land around it. It simply sits on the landscape as a powerful volume. The graveyard is approximately 100 metres to the east of the church and is surrounded by a concrete wall and short trees.

The construction of the church is very similar to that of the houses of Hmud, its outer walls, built of basalt and limestone like the rest of Hmud's walls, envelope an almost rectangular space with four thick arches that span the shorter distance to carry the roof. As in the typical Jordanian house, the roof is made of wooden beams spanning the arches, with cane on top of the beams and layers of earth on top of the cane. The northern elevation, which contains the building's only entrance, is the facade. Above the door is the bell carried between two short stone additions that once might have been connected with an arch.

The interior is delightful, filled with colourful objects and vintage electric chandeliers that hang, filling the upper third of the space.

It was not the best time for me to see the interior in this untidy state. Functions in the old church had been suspended in anticipation of the new church's being constructed a few metres away from the main facade of the older building. The new church, 1984-1985, has an exterior of sawn stone veneer that came from a city; the contractor is originally from Jerusalem, and the builders are from Egypt.

The people
Hmud belongs mainly to one Christian clan, Al Halaseh; this makes the traditional community entirely Christian. The village was first constructed at the beginning of this century, and since then land ownership has been kept in the clan. Even today, when most of the Halasehs live



The interior of a Hmud house that is still being used

elsewhere, the old Hmud, which is almost deserted, still belongs to the descendants of the original settlers.

According to the elders of the village, the Halaseh clan originally came from Egypt. Other family names that are branches of the Halaseh clan include the Dhamin, Burgan, Turman, Qussus, Amarin, Utar, Sharaiah, Khitan, Thubaan, Koud, Shawareh, and Thawaher.

The current community is of a peculiar mixture. The majority is still made up of Halasehs, but in the old village, outsiders have been given shelter. Some of the old houses have been occupied, some rented and some for free, since the 1950s when the original owners started to move out. Several bedouin families have settled in from the east, an example being an old man and his wife from the Hweyhat tribe. Another old woman is from the Ka'abneh tribe, who originally came from the western side of the Dead Sea. She came to Hmud in 1983 after a family dispute. And one family, Bustanji, from Dura near Hebron, is running a small shop in their garden, the only shop in Hmud.

The economy

The economy of Hmud is based on agriculture and pastoralism. The flat land to the west is planted in wheat, lentil, and other kinds of grain. Depending on the amount and frequency of the winter rain, the crop output is unpredictable. This inconsistency of grain supply contributes greatly to the storing methods evident in the architecture of the area. Until the late 1960s, hardly any trees, fruit-bearing or non-fruit-

bearing, existed in or around the village. Today only a few trees—olive, pine, cypress—are tall enough to have an impact on the landscape. The new practice of planting fruit trees in the small private gardens of some of the traditional houses of Hmud is adding green patches of colour to what was traditionally an environmental colour scheme of only white limestone and black basalt.

The raising of livestock complements land cultivation in the village economy, with sheep and goats most prevalent. Because of the relative flatness of the terrain surrounding Hmud, sheep are more popular than goats; where-as in a village like Bathan, which is set in more precarious terrain, goats constitute the majority of the livestock. Some families specialise in livestock, some in land cultivation, and some do both in season. Grazing land is mostly east of Hmud during winter and spring when the fertile land to the west is planted. During the summer harvested land becomes available for flocks and herds to graze on the remains of the collected crop. With the arrival of agricultural machines, especially the tractor, farming outstripped livestock raising. Traditionally the inhabitants of Hmud would spend part of the year away from their village, leading a completely nomadic life.

They used to go in April in search of the green (they reached Nabulus, once). Livestock benefit used to determine the course. The whole village used to leave; few would stay. They used to go to Balqa areas or Qusur Bashear near Al Qatranah where the tribe of Bani Atyeh lives.

Notes on a Christian amulet-scroll from Hmud

By Dr. Birgit Mershen

The inclination to attribute to supernatural forces all accidents and disasters which cannot easily be explained rationally is found world-wide. In the Arab World misfortune is often considered a result of the operation of the "evil eye," magic or supernatural beings. For protection and cure from these effects a variety of amulets and other magical practices are used.

The belief in these harmful powers is older than Christianity and Islam, and so are the means to keep them under control. Both have persisted, adapted to the requirements of orthodox religion by certain modifications.

Written charms, which in Jordan are in common use among Muslims and Christians and generally are composed by magico-religious specialists, exhibit features peculiar to the respective religion: Whereas Muslim charms primarily are composed of verses of the Qur'an, Christian charms often include Biblical text-passages and prayers addressed to the Trinity and the saints. Orthodox religion thus gives a formal framework for a written charm, which basically might be thought of as an incantation, which is made permanent by writing it down.

The written charm on display was found in an abandoned house

once inhabited by a Christian family in the village of Hmud. It is a script-roll—a common form for a charm—which is 3 metres long and 7.5 cm wide. It consists of eight sheets which were glued together and written with black ink. The paper was rolled up and sewed into a piece of striped woolen cloth. A thread sewed to the warp might have served as a loop to wear the charm as a cord under the clothes as is the common practice.

The text of the scroll alternates between the prayer to God and the conjuration of a demon who is referred to as "the impure spirit" or "Satan." The charm is designated for a woman called Salma.

Text-passages as the following one, which addresses God, indicate that the purpose of the charm was to reconvert Salma's behaviour to the social norms of her group:

(Sheet 4, line 33-40)

Take far away and remove from your servant Salma all effect of a devil or magic and all deadly dangerous arrows, all worship of destructive idols and all divination by stars and the questioning of the dead and divination by letting birds fly. ...

What might have been felt as indecent conduct was, however, by the author of the script, not considered to be Salma's personal failure but was attributed to the influence of supernatural powers.

The text indicates that Salma was considered to be possessed by "Satan", who shall be exorcised through the charm:

(Sheet 1, line 19-30)

A adjure you oh origin of blasphemy, I adjure you oh head of sin and violation who performs malice and the evil deeds. I adjure you who fell off from the heavenly lights and descended to the bottom of the gloomy darkness because of the pride and boasting. I adjure you and all your army who fell with you ... I adjure you oh impure ghost ... by the divine belief who controls everything and by the army of God's angels, that you go out and turn away from God's servant Salma. I adjure you by the God who created all creatures with his word and by our Lord Jesus the Messiah his only son who was born before the ages.

For fear the charm might miss its target the author takes pains to locate the demon in place, appearance and time, whether:

(Sheet 3, line 5-12)

... coming in sorcery or in the middle of the day or in the middle of the night or in unconfined times or at the time of dawn or coming of your own or sent by someone ... or in the sea or on a cliff ... or under the earth or on mainland or in a lake or in a valley ... or in a forest or on a piece of land or in an impure place or on a rugged terrain or on a plain or in a kind of tree ... or in a storm. ...



The Christian amulet-scroll from Hmud

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran
16:10 Programme on chemistry
16:30 World of Magic
17:00 Local programme
17:50 Basketball
18:40 Message from Oman
19:00 Local programme
19:40 Programme review
20:40 News in Arabic
20:50 Arabic Series
21:30 Cultural seminar
22:10 Varieties programme
23:00 News summary in Arabic
23:10 Programme contd.

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 des chiffres et des lettres
18:30 Lucky Luke (cartoon)
19:00 News in French
19:15 French varieties: Un DB de plus
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Varieties
20:40 I Married Dora (comedy)
20:50 News in Arabic
21:10 Nuclear Weapons
22:00 News in English
22:20 Murder She Wrote
23:10 Rich Man, Poor Man

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & partly on 95.60 KHz, SW
Tel: 774111-19

07:00

07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsdesk
08:00 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:10 Just a Minute
11:00 Good Old Days
12:00 News Summary
12:05 30 Minute Theatre
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session Contd.
14:00 News Bulletin
14:15 Instrumentals
14:30 30 Minute Theatre
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:30 Instrumentals
16:30 Old Favourites
17:00 Pop Talk
17:30 Pop Session
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Top Ten
18:30 Music
19:00 News Desk
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary
21:05 Evening Show Contd.

22:00

22:00 News Summary
22:05 Evening Show Continued
23:00 News Summary
23:05 Evening Show Continued
24:00 Close Down

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1323 KHz

07:00

07:00 Newsdesk 07:30 Rhythms of the Sun 07:45 Reflections 07:50 Financial News 08:00 World News 08:09 24 Hours: News Summary 08:30 News Ideas 08:40 Turning over New Leaves 08:45 The World Today 09:00 Newsdesk 09:30 Counterpoint 10:00 World News 10:30 24 Hours: News Summary 10:30 Journey Round My People 10:45 Network U.K. 11:00 World News 11:09 Reflections 11:15 Tech Talk 11:30 Music of the Royal Courts 11:45 The Seven Ages of Man 12:00 World News 12:09 British Review 12:15 The World Today 12:30 Financial News followed by Sports Roundup 12:45 The Seven Ages of Man 13:00 News Summary followed by Discovery 13:30 Sports International 14:00 World News 14:09 News About Britain 14:15 Sportsweek 14:25 A Letter from Scotland 14:30 Citizens 15:00 Radio Newsreel 15:15 Multitrack 1: Top 20 15:45 Sports Round-up 16:00 World News 16:09 24 Hours: News Summary 16:30 Network U.K. 16:45 Recording of the Week 17:00 Outlook, opening with 5-minute News 17:45 A Schubert Anthology 18:00 Radio Newsreel 18:15 A Jolly Good Show 19:00 World News 19:09 "Commemory 19:15 Omnibus 19:45 The World Today 20:00 World News 20:09 A Letter from Scotland 20:15 Citizens 20:45 Sports Roundup 21:00 Newsdesk 21:30 Development '88 22:00 Outlook, opening with News Summary 22:30 Stock Market Report 22:45 Report on Religion 23:00 World News 23:09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 23:30 Meridian 24:00

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1260 & SW 7200, 9565, 11740, 11925 and 15210 Kz

07:00

07:00 News 07:10 Newsline 07:30 VOA Morning 08:00 News 08:10 Newsline 08:30 VOA Morning 09:00 News 09:10 Newsline 09:30 VOA Morning 09:40 News 10:00 Newsline 10:30 News 10:40 Newsline 10:50 News 11:00 Newsline 11:30 News 11:40 Newsline 11:50 News 12:00 Newsline 12:30 News 12:40 Newsline 12:50 News 13:00 Newsline 13:30 News 13:40 Newsline 13:50 News 14:00 Newsline 14:30 News 14:40 Newsline 14:50 News 15:00 Newsline 15:30 News 15:40 Newsline 15:50 News 16:00 Newsline 16:30 News 16:40 Newsline 16:50 News 17:00 Newsline 17:30 News 17:40 Newsline 17:50 News 18:00 Newsline 18:30 News 18:40 Newsline 18:50 News 19:00 Newsline 19:30 News 19:40 Newsline 19:50 News 20:00 Newsline 20:30 News 20:40 Newsline 20:50 News 21:00 Newsline 21:30 News 21:40 Newsline 21:50 News 22:00 Newsline 22:30 News 22:40 Newsline 22:50 News 23:00 Newsline 23:30 News 23:40 Newsline 23:50 News 24:00 World Report

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* Permanent book exhibition, at Tower Building, Jabal Amman, 3rd Circle.

* A permanent exhibition of plastic art by 27 Arab artists at the Plaza Hotel.

* An art exhibition by the Soviet Cultural Centre "Jordan Through Soviet Camera" at the Royal Cultural Centre at 10:00 a.m.

* An art exhibition by Tawfiq Yahya at the French Cultural Centre.

FILMS

* Film: "The Cat Has Nine Lives." Goethe Institute at 8:30 p.m.

A British film: "Defence of the Realm" at the Royal Cultural Centre at 8:00 p.m.

LECTURES

* Lectures and discussions on alternative energy resources by Dr. Thomas Stauffer, at the American Centre.

MUSIC

* American folk music at 7:00 p.m. at the American Centre.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre .. Tel. 6610267

American Centre .. 64371

American Centre Library .. 641520

British Council .. 6361478

French Cultural Centre .. 641993

Goethe Institute .. 64203

Spanish Cultural Centre .. 630409

Turkish Cultural Centre .. 639777

Haya Arts Centre .. 665195

Husseini Youth City .. 6671816

Y.W.C.A. .. 641793

Ammann Municipal Library .. 637111

Univ. of Jordan Library .. 843555

MUSEUMS

"Children's Heritage and Science Museum" Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Closed on Friday.

SERVICE CLUBS

The Amman Lions Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Regency Palace Hotel, 7:30 p.m. Lions Club of Amman. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m. Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.

Royal Automobile Club. Jabal Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 816534, 817534.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein, Tel. 624590.

Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Luweibeh, Tel. 637440.

De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein, Tel. 661757.

Terrassanta Church (Roman Catholic), Jabal Luweibeh, mass in Italian language, meet every Saturday at 5:30 p.m. Tel: 622366.

Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, Tel. 623541.

Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, Tel. 625383.

chaplain's residence, tel. 601359

Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 771331.

Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 775251.

St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, Tel. 771715.

Ammann International Church (Interdenominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, Tel. 677235.

Evangelical Lutheran Church (Church of the Good Shepherd) Amman. Arabic Service: Sunday 7 p.m. Rev. N. Smir 811295.

Rainbow congregation, (meets at the Good Shepherd Church)

Interdenominational-evangelical English Service: Saturday 6:30 p.m. Tel. 822605. Rev. Veli.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormon) Tel. 815817, 821264.

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08) 532025, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

10:00 Agaba (RJ)
10:15 Jeddah (RJ)
10:30 Cairo (RJ)
10:40 Kuwait (RJ)
10:45 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
10:55 Muscat, Dubai (RJ)
11:00 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
11:00 Larnaca, Damascus (RJ)
11:00 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
11:10 Istanbul (RJ)
11:20 Athens (RJ)
11:25 Copenhagen, Frankfurt (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

12:30 Baghdad (IA)
12:30 Athens (RJ)
12:30 Muscat, Abu Dhabi, Doha (GF)
12:30 Bucharest (RJ)
12:30 Kuwait (RJ)
12:30 Tripoli (LN)
12:30 Riyadh (SV)
12:30 Dubai (EK)
12:30 Rome (AZ)
12:30 Zurich, Larnaca (SR)
01:00 London, Cairo (BA)

DEPARTURES ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

07:45 Agaba (RJ)
12:00 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
12:10 Athens (RJ)
12:30 Frankfurt, Brussels (RJ)
12:40 Istanbul (RJ)
12:45 Rome, Madrid (RJ)
12:50 Geneva, London (RJ)
13:15 Paris (RJ)
13:20 Dhahran (RJ)
13:30 Kuwait (RJ)
13:40 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
13:50 Cairo (RJ)
14:15 Vienna, Miami, Los Angeles (RJ)
21:30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

09:15 Beirut (ME)
14:00 Baghdad (IA)
14:05 Cairo (MS)
14:30 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi, Muscat (GF)
15:00 Moscow (SU)
15:35 Kuwait (RJ)
15:40 Bucharest (RJ)
16:45 Kuwait (LN)
17:00 Riyadh (SV)
18:25 Damascus (AZ)
19:00 Dubai (EK)

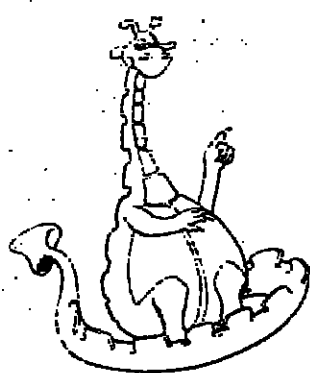
MONEY EXCHANGE

Local selling rates in Jds
Belgian franc (for 10) 95.11
Dutch guilder 177.21
French franc 58.91
Italian lira (for 100) 26.71
Japanese yen (for

JT anti-smoking contest

THE WINNERS of the dragon's anti-smoking competition which appeared in the Jordan Times in April on the occasion of the International No-Smoking Day (April 7) are kindly requested to contact the Jordan Times Tuesday after 11 a.m. for their prizes. The winners of the competition are:

From the older category:
— First: Belal Za'atar
— Second: Zilcho Zephyr
— Third: Rand Hazou
— Fourth: Neeru
— Fifth: Malek Saket
From the younger category:
— First: Ruba Walid Kalaji
— Second: Haneen Abu Dayh



412 needy families get JD 7,356 from NAF

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The National Aid Fund (NAF) Monday announced that it distributed JD 7,356 in recurrent financial assistance to 412 needy families in the past two months and gave lump sum assistance to six families who suddenly lost their source of income.

The NAF's director general said that in April and May the fund spent JD 22,350 on establishing vocational and handicraft projects benefitting able but needy families, and JD 1,061 on the rehabilitation of nine handicapped persons in different parts of the Kingdom.

During the past two months, he said, the fund conducted studies on 140 families, and decided to arrange exemption for them from medical care charges at government hospitals and medical centres.

According to the director, Mr.

Khalil Al Faouri, a total of 8,000 needy families are on the NAF's list for regular monthly assistance in the Kingdom, each receiving up to JD 40 a month.

The NAF, in addition, offers emergency lump sum assistance to those families suffering from a sudden disaster and losing their source of income, Faouri noted.

According to Faouri, a total of 193 families were added to the list of needy families for receiving monthly assistance in April 1988.

The NAF, which was established in 1986, draws its resources from the government and donations by individuals and voluntary organisations and societies.

Faouri said the NAF's programme of creating occupations for heads of needy families, is designed to help poor people rely on their own power for earning a living and stop receiving assistance.

Health scheme beneficiaries to pay only 25% of cost

AMMAN (Petra) — The Health Ministry's Planning Committee Monday decided that needy beneficiaries covered by the national health scheme should be charged only 25 per cent of the cost of hearing aids purchased by the ministry.

The committee, meeting under the chairmanship of Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh, decided that the cost of conducting test-tube babies operations and treating men and women suffering from sterility does not fall under the category of primary health

care services and so will not be shouldered by the Ministry of Health.

The committee decided that whenever possible vehicles owned by Health Ministry centres should be offered to Civil Defence services in different regions to help carry out emergency work.

It also discussed matters related to preparing documentary films on hospitals in Jordan and storing the films at the ministry's Planning and Research Department.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

NEW SCHOOLS: The Education Department in Zarqa has taken delivery of a number of schools built at a total cost of JD 6,745,133. A department spokesman said that the schools are located at Duleil, Zarqa and housing estates in both regions.

INDEPENDENCE: The Department of Education in Jerash organised a cultural and artistic festival Monday on Jordan's independence and anniversary of the Great Arab Revolt. The department director who opened the event on behalf of Minister of Education Thawqan Hindawi made a speech, reviewing the education process in the Kingdom and briefing his audience on the Jordanian schools' academic, vocational and extra-curricular activities. The festival included national songs and dancing by students in the Jerash district and painting exhibitions. Later, the Ministry of Education's Secretary General Munther Al Masri opened Jerash's vocational school for boys which was set up on a 17-dunum land with workshops and sports halls and other facilities.

TOURISM AWARDS: The Department of Education in Irbid Monday distributed awards and token gifts to teachers and students who won in competitions on promoting tourism in Irbid governorate. The winners had submitted essays on means of developing archaeological and tourist sites in the governorate to promote tourism.

MADABA GRADUATION: Roman Catholic Patriarch of Jerusalem Michel Sabbah Monday attended a ceremony here for the graduation of the secondary class students from the Roman Catholic School in Madaba. The ceremony included a variety show, with the students presenting national dances and songs. Towards the end of the ceremony, which was attended by the Madaba district governor, the Patriarch distributed school certificates to the graduates.

TARAWNEH RETURNS: Civil Defence Department (CDD) Director General Khaled Tarawneh returned to Amman Monday after representing Jordan at an international conference on civil defence held in Geneva. Participants in the three-day meeting endorsed a training programme for personnel from different countries.

TRANSPORT TALKS: Secretaries general of the Jordanian and Egyptian Ministries of Transport and Telecommunications met in Baghdad Monday with Iraqi Minister of Transport and Telecommunications Mohammad Hamzeh. They discussed matters related to the operations of the newly established Arab Maritime Bridge Company involving the three countries.

BAD FOOD DESTROYED: Zarqa Municipality Monday destroyed three tonnes of food stuffs and canned food found to be unfit for human consumption. The Zarqa Municipality Committee chairman said that the food supplies were collected by municipal health teams during inspection tours of food stores and restaurants in the city. He said that the teams will maintain their rounds to seize bad food and to refer storekeepers to the concerned authorities for their violation of regulations.

HANDICAPPED CHILDREN: Heads of Ministry of Social Development institutions, offering special education to handicapped children, held a meeting at the Ministry of Social Development Monday to discuss general plans for the rehabilitation of the handicapped. The meeting, chaired by the Ministry's Secretary General Mohammad Sqour, discussed the needs of these institutions in facilities and programmes to provide vocational training and special education to the handicapped children.

SOVIET ARTIST: Soviet artist Shamukhammed Akumukhammedov who is displaying 53 paintings at the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC) said Monday that he will hold an exhibition in Moscow next year on Jordan's Independence and Army Day. He told a press gathering at the RCC that nine of his paintings depict scenes from Jordan's social life which he had gathered during his earlier visit to the Kingdom. The Soviet artist's exhibition, which opened last Saturday and runs until Thursday, is designed to highlight work of art in the Turkmen Soviet Republic.



A three-day meeting on means to speed up environmental information among East Mediterranean countries opens in Amman Monday (Petra photo)

Ajlouni, Egyptian team discuss transportation

AMMAN (Petra) — Tourism Minister Zuhair Ajlouni met here Monday with a delegation representing the Egyptian Union of Air Transport Workers now on a visit to Jordan.

The minister paid tribute to the transport workers for their part in helping to promote tourism and facilitating the transportation of tourists to Egypt and Jordan.

The minister reviewed with the delegation a work plan drawn up by the Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Committee on tourism.

Ajlouni stressed the importance of promoting Egyptian-Jordanian exchange of expertise and information in tourism-related fields.

Several Ministry of Tourism officials were present at the

meeting. The Egyptian delegation later met with the Social Security Corporation's (SSC) Director General Mahdi Farhan who briefed the visitors on the benefits of social security for Jordanian workers.

The SSC offers protection to 470,000 Jordanian workers in various establishments which employ five or more people, as well as expatriates and private individuals.

Farhan spoke about cooperation in social security affairs between Jordan and other Arab countries and the seminars and conferences which are being organised from time to time to bolster such cooperation.

Jordan, Farhan said, has been exerting "strenuous efforts to ex-



Zuhair Ajlouni

pand the scope of such cooperation, and the Kingdom welcomes the idea of a unified social security system for the Arab World, offering protection to workers' rights and services.

Farhan briefed the delegation on the SSC's compensation scheme and the pension system for beneficiaries and also about the SSC investments in different projects.

Supply of water back to normal at Swada

SALT (Petra) — The Water Department in Balqa governorate announced Monday that it has resumed pumping drinking water to the Swada district in Salt after repairs had been completed on parts of the water networks, which caused temporary disruption on water supplies.

The department director said that the water situation in the governorate was good and that water was being pumped to all homes regularly and around the clock.

But, he said, a programme for water pumping to a number of villages north of Salt has been worked out so that they will receive quick supplies. These villages include Al Aridha and Zay, which is a summer resort.

According to the department director a total of 9,500 cubic metres of water are being pumped to Salt and 2,300 cubic metres to neighbouring regions on a daily basis.

The director urged members of the public to rationalise their water consumption and to install water tanks on the roofs of their homes to store water.

Regional environment seminar seeks to speed up flow of information

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — A three-day meeting opened in Amman Monday to look into means to speed up the flow of environmental information among countries in the East Mediterranean region through a regional information network.

Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh opened the meeting, which is being sponsored by the Amman-based regional Centre for Environmental Health Activities (CEHA), underlining the importance of research work conducted by the centre and the working papers submitted by the participating countries.

Referring to the environmental situation in Jordan, the minister said that specific laws and regulations were enacted over the past two decades governing all elements that directly or indirectly affect the environment.

"Jordan enjoys a good environmental situation thanks to the continued coordination and exchange of information between the Kingdom and countries in the region on the one hand, and between these countries and world organisations on the other," the minister said.

He said that in all its national development plans, affecting agriculture, housing and industry,

Jordan has been keen to provide measures to protect the environment from pollution.

"Environment control in Jordan has been given priority by all public and private organisations, and specialised scientific institutions have conducted their own researches and studies on subjects related to the protection of the environment," Hamzeh noted.

CEHA representative N. Akmaloglu delivered a message from Dr. Hussein Al Jazairi the World Health Organisation's (WHO) regional representative outlining the objectives of the Amman centre, which "include the establishment of a regional network benefitting the East Mediterranean region in all matters related to a safe and healthy environment."

"Such network is needed to help countries in the region to confront and deal with all issues related to the safety of the environment, especially in the protection of water network and

maintaining good sanitary systems," he said.

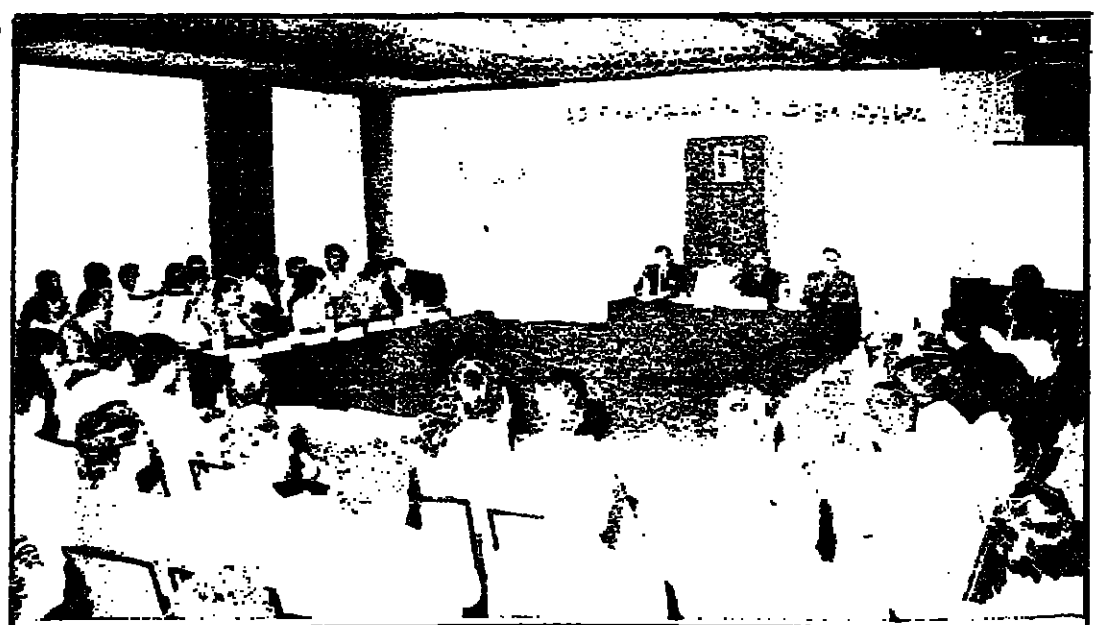
"This is the first consultative group meeting for countries involved in this network which was initiated last February with assistance from the Canadian International Development Research Centre," Akmaloglu noted.

The meeting, he added, will lay down the general outlines for the network's activities, its general regulations, training policies for its staff, information related to preserving the safety of the environment, and a general plan for the coming two years.

Out of a total of 23 countries grouped in the WHO-sponsored CEHA, only 16 are present at the current meeting being held at the Jerusalem Hotel in Amman.

A CEHA official told the Jordan Times that the 16 members have each submitted a working paper on the subject of providing protection to the environment, the projected network, its plans and requirements of trained staff and facilities in the region.

Arab countries in the East Mediterranean region, in addition to representatives from Afghanistan, Cyprus and Pakistan, are taking part in the meeting.



A three-week training course for employees in Arab countries' statistics departments opens in Amman Monday (Petra photo)

Statistics training course opens

AMMAN (Petra) — The Department of Statistics Monday opened a three-week training course for employees in Arab countries' Statistics Departments.

The department director who opened the first session underlined the importance of subjects included in the course to improve

the efficiency and skill of the participants.

Apart from basic subjects, the participants will review different experiments in statistics at a number of Arab countries.

In the meantime, a training course for directors of govern-

ment departments opened at the Institute of Public Administration in Amman.

The participants will spend 10 days hearing lectures and discussing a number of ideas and concepts related to improving public administration services.

Rally held to mark 1967 war

AMMAN (Petra) — A rally was held at the Professional Association Complex in Amman on Sunday to mark the 1967 June war anniversary.

A number of heads of trade and professional unions addressed the rally, relating inhuman practices and actions by the Israeli forces in the occupied Arab territories and Israel's settlement policy.

The speakers underlined the importance of maintaining unity of ranks among Arab countries in order to thwart all conspiracies hatched against the Arab nation.

The speakers urged the heads of Arab and Muslim nations to extend all possible assistance to the Palestinian people now involved in an uprising against the Israeli occupation authorities.

Jordanian Dentists Association President Ishaq Al Khairi, who addressed the meeting greeted the Arab countries for their "rejection of bids to capitulate and surrender to the enemy," following the 1967 war, and urged them to cling to their rights and their land, to end their differences and maintain a strong solidarity in the face of Israel's conspiracies.

The president of the Bar Association Hussein Mujalli reviewed the situation in the Arab World during and after the June war of 1967, and appealed to the Arabs to preserve the unity of their ranks.

Another speaker was the Jordanian Medical Association President Mamdouh Al Abhadi, who underlined the importance of coordination among Arab countries in confronting the common threats by Israel, and paid tribute to the heroic struggle of the Palestinian people under Israeli rule.

Marriott Sets Standards

WANTED

The Jeddah Marriott Hotel has a vacancy for the following positions:

1. Male Sales Manager
2. Male Secretary

Applicants must be Jordanian citizen, have completed the 2 years national service, and have excellent command of both Arabic and English. Interviews will be held at the Amman Marriott Hotel. Please contact Human Resources Department on 660100 for more information.

Marriott people know how.

AMMAN
Marriott
HOTEL



ماريوت
عمان

Marriott Sets Standards

WANTED: SALES SECRETARY

Applicants should be fluent in English and Arabic minimum 4 - 5 years experience. Excellent typing English/Arabic. Jordanian national need only apply. Please contact the Human Resources Department on 660100 for more information.

Marriott people know how.

JEDDAH
Marriott
HOTEL

ماريوت
جدة

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

Chairman of the Board of Directors:
MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Responsible Editor and Director General:
MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:
RAMI G. KHOURI

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation,
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171-6, 670141-4, 666265-2
Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

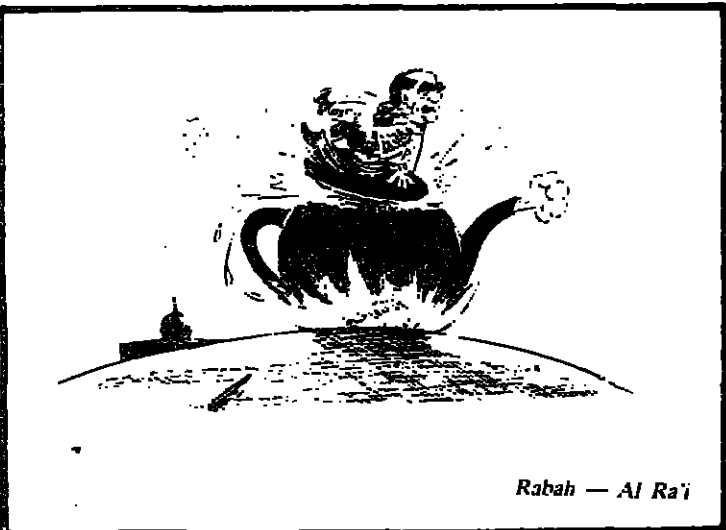
Facsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.
Subscription and advertising rates are available from the
Jordan Times advertising department.

Ready for action?

THE three-day general strike in the occupied West Bank and Gaza has effectively quashed Israeli assertions that the Palestinians had become tired of the uprising and that the six-month-old anti-occupation revolt was waning. Not that anyone needed any reminder that the Palestinian people have gone beyond the point of no return with the rebellion, by realising their power and strength as a people fighting occupation with unarmed struggle. But it should be a definite reminder to Israel's political and military leaders that they would be kidding no-one but themselves when issuing sweeping statements designed to reassure Israel's backers that the Palestinian uprising is slowly dying down.

By the same token, the Palestinian people have also sent a clear message to the rest of the Arab World that they would pursue their struggle with or without material support from their Arab brethren. If anything, the central theme of the message appears to be that political as well as material support are what the Palestinians need today. The Arab summit which opens today in Algiers is designed to focus Arab attention on the uprising; but given the situation in the Arab World, it is not clear how the leaders gathered in the Algerian capital will come up with concrete help to the Palestinian people, beyond the usual reaffirmation of support and nationalist slogans. Even if they come up with pledges of financial support for the Palestinian people, such support will have to reach the occupied territories in the face of strict measures on money transfers imposed by the Israeli occupation authorities. The summit is sure to make a strong, determined call for all-out political action by the Arab World, speaking in one voice to the rest of the international community. But, the big question remains: Is the Arab World ready for decisive political action? Can the Arab leaders meaningfully support the Palestinian people and help tilt the power balance in Palestine, in a manner that would encourage a solution to the Palestine problem that is just and fair for all, rather than one dictated by powers outside the Arab World?



ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Hope in Algiers

THE Arab leaders are meeting in Algiers Tuesday to discuss the uprising in the occupied Arab territories along with other important issues of concern to their nation. They will no doubt examine the situation in the Arab region in the light of enemy ambitions in Arab lands, and the continued occupation of the Palestinian territory. There is no doubt that the Arab leaders who achieved consensus and agreement during the Amman summit on national issues will again dedicate their efforts and time to finding a proper formula with which to thwart Israel's ambitions and help their kinsmen under Israeli rule. Any Arab summit meeting is considered as a constructive step for the Arab Nation since it brings together heads of state who have the power to take decisions on collective action and who can initiate plans and set outlines for coordination and cooperation on means of military and political confrontation with the common enemy. These leaders can also take decisions on economic, cultural and social issues and can come out with positive results benefiting the whole nation. The more Arab heads of state attending the summit the greater will be the chance for success. On the eve of the coming summit we can only say that the Arab masses are full of hope for the future and they are confident that the Algiers summit will be complementary in form and in essence to that which was held in Amman last November.

Al Dustour: Shultz's dilemma

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz's visit to Israel in his current tour served as a testing ground for the American administration's will and diplomacy; and presented a real challenge for the American secretary himself. Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has built a high wall of intransigence in front of Shultz, making it difficult for any progress in his drive for finding a breakthrough in his current initiative. Shultz faced tests of another kind during his stops in Amman and Cairo where he carried his concept about a solution and presented a new version of his initiative. But it should be noted that the outcome of Shultz's present tour in the region largely depends on his success or failure in his talks with the Israeli leaders. We are confident that Shultz's nice words just before his arrival in Israel will not help pave the way for successful meeting with Shamir who is assured of continued American support regardless of Israel's position. Unless Shultz takes a more firm stand, his current initiative looks to be doomed in view of Shamir's adamant stand. Shultz should expect the demise of his initiative as long as the United States continues to provide protection for Israel's aggression at international forums, and as long as the U.S. administration is doing nothing to force Israel to accept peace. Shultz is required to defend his country's credibility, and as a representative of a superpower, ought to take steps that can prevent an outbreak of war in this troubled region.

Sawt Al Shaab: Hope for unity, consensus

ON the eve of the Algiers Arab summit one cannot but hope that the Arab leaders will end the remaining differences that mar their relations and embark on measures designed to strengthen their unity. It is natural for the Arab masses to remain watchful for positive results and hopeful that the Arab leaders will take proper measures to help confront the challenges posed to the nation and threatening Arab people's interests. The Algiers summit has been called to discuss the situation in the light of the on-going uprising in the occupied Arab territories and the Palestinian question which has been on the agenda of Arab summits since 1964. The Palestine question ought to pool the efforts of all Arab countries which are looking to the uprising as a new hope or an end to occupation. It should be noted that the Arab leaders still lack a full agreement and consensus on matters related to the Palestine question, not also with regard to the Iran-Iraq war. Let us hope that the coming summit will help the Arabs overcome present difficulties and pave the way for a more constructive action.

GUEST COLUMN

Let's debate this one

By Haya Hussein

EDUCATION has the simplest, most uncomplicated method a system could ever have: To lure the child into dynamic vigour, into discovery and debate — not to force, not to compel, simply to lure. But how fragile this system is. A forced, confining and information-crammed education (even with modern methods) could have a devastating effect.

Education in Jordan is now finding better, more fulfilling answers. While school curricula are being revised, a project to establish a school for the academically talented, or those with exceptionally high IQs, is being studied and prepared for.

This new school, the Jubilee School, will select the very highly intelligent regardless of economic background. It will offer vast opportunities for those who are academically advanced and it will serve as a model school for other schools to emulate, to set their standards by.

In the West, particularly in America, such schools have been set up and, with the indispensable aid of school and educational psychologists, are carefully studied and scrutinised to record detailed effects of the selective school system on the selected and the non-selected child, on their parents, on the future and more importantly, on society.

In England, selective education for high IQ students has been a highly controversial issue on grounds of elitism and discrimination. Here in Jordan, one must evaluate such significant steps in education. After all, what applies to the West may not necessarily apply to developing countries. What the West can afford to do, with regard to education, may not be what developing countries can or should do. This banal tune can go on forever, but we have to face facts. We do not yet have school psychologists to give us reliable and professional answers. To use a hackneyed image, we have to knead the dough well before baking it, because we cannot afford to go wrong.

A question arises: how far is intelligence genetic, and how far is it environmental? According to educationalists (and this is logical)

genetically intelligent children of highly different socioeconomic backgrounds have a similar level of academic achievement until a certain age. After that, intelligence is nurtured by environment. Children with wealthy and well-educated parents will travel, buy books, indulge in educational and expensive hobbies and will, very importantly, be guided by the good education of their families.

A child of poor and uneducated parents will not have these advantages. The selective school will test, interview and select the child according to her/his ability. But already some children, otherwise perfectly capable, will be at a social and economic disadvantage.

Even after school, specially selected children will continue with their advantage. They will find themselves in demand at universities and for jobs. Other children from more humble schools, will have to jump the hurdles, if they can reach them.

While some fortunate children, academically average, go abroad and excel in their education because they are taught to enjoy it, others in Jordan undergo high levels of undesirable rivalry, marriage, as they do, the whole concept of education. (Education is in the experience of being in daily contact with others, say some educationalists).

Often, and even when they are not competent enough, children are pushed to achieve high grades by ambitious parents. This is a sad social fact, spurred on by the fashionable opinions that university degree holders are the cream of society and that wealth and education go hand in hand. Children who are pushed to high academic levels without the inherent ability to do so usually end up disappointed and educationally crippled.

Taking into account these social factors, what will happen to academic competition, its consequent child failures and successes, when the Jubilee School is established?

Every country needs its highly intelligent. The aims of the Jubilee School are to spur the bright students on into achieving their highest potential. Why, after all, shouldn't the able student

realise her/his potential in life? Such a student has an academic advantage and must pursue it. Such a student has the right to enroll at a school that would cater for her/his individual needs.

But how many other children are to be cast as "incapable" and "limited" when, in reality, and given the proper opportunities and attention, they too could have a great deal of good to contribute to society?

Says the noted Kenneth B. Clark in his book *Dark Ghetto*: "Children who are treated as if they are uneducable will almost invariably become uneducable."

Jordan needs now, more than anything else, to push the underaverage, and socially underprivileged child to seek and discover her/his own potential; and certainly not to undermine the efforts of the majority of children who are above average and intelligent.

Since it is difficult to stimulate the mind of an academically inept child, is it not more sensible to grant that child easy access to attractive opportunities (which may interest them more) such as the Jubilee School is willing to offer the highly intelligent?

Talent, when it exists, is clear and manifest. Talented children have stood out and always will. It would be unfair to suggest that talented children do not feel the strain of boredom during school life. University education will please them better. But at the moment there are all those children who are academically below average and who are allowed to continue with their educational frustration for the rest of their lives. And unlike other children, they have no second chance. They will not pursue higher education.

That is why school education can be so simple, so indiscriminate: When a child discovers that she/he has ideas and that these ideas are useful; and yet school education can be so fragile, so devastating; when a child discovers she/he has no ideas at all and that if they did, nobody would want them anyway.

Haya Hussein is a teacher at the New English School in Amman.

Summit offered forum to present Soviet reform

By Alison Smale
The Associated Press

MOSCOW — The Moscow summit offered the Soviets a forum to put on show Mikhail Gorbachev's reforms and a chance to boost the Kremlin leader on the eve of a Communist Party conference crucial to the success of his policies.

While the U.S. media devoted much space and time to the meeting between U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Gorbachev, the Soviet media devoted at least as much space to discussion of the party conference and a reform document published on the eve of the summit that outlines more, potentially radical reforms.

Soviet television coverage of the summit, meanwhile, portrayed Gorbachev as a dynamic, sophisticated world leader.

Reagan helped promote that image during his stay by repeatedly acknowledging the blossoming of the state-run arts and media, restructuring of the economy and freeing of some political prisoners under Gorbachev. Reagan appeared so impressed with Gorbachev's policies that he withdrew his earlier characterisation of the Soviet Union as an "evil empire." And when it came time for Reagan to leave, he bid a warm farewell to a leader he said had become a personal friend.

But the air of good will did not hide the fact that Gorbachev is waging a battle to win the support of the 5,000 Communist Party delegates to the national conference, which begins June 28. The conference is the first of its kind since 1941.

Gorbachev has said he wants "partisans of perestroika," his effort to restructure Soviet society, elected as delegates to the conference.

At the same time, the Soviet leader has indicated that he does not want any party conflicts out in the open, and he studiously avoided mention of the party conference during the summit.

But that did not stop Soviet reformers from speaking out about the fierce fight being waged by orthodox Communists and outspoken Gorbachev supporters over delegate elections to the conference.

Some of the liberals ousted as delegates were restored to the list when the Moscow party hierarchy intervened after the summit.

Gorbachev, moving straight from summit to his internal problems, attended the Moscow party meeting that made the decisions, but state-run media gave no clue as to whether he spoke out in favour of the move. They did report, however, that he stressed the importance of his domestic reforms to the success of the summit with Reagan.

Boris Yeltsin, the ousted Moscow Communist Party boss dropped from the ruling politburo last February, took the most dramatic step, giving two interviews to Western television stations in which he called for the resignation of the Kremlin's No. 2 official, Yegor K. Ligachev.

Yeltsin is said to have criticised the slow pace of reform in an unpublished speech last Oct. 21 that led to his ouster. This week, he took the unprecedented step of using Western interviews to assail Ligachev for allegedly blocking reform.

Gorbachev insisted at his news conference last week that there is no movement to force Ligachev to step down.

Candid articles

At the same time, however, the pro-reform weekly *Ogonyok* and the weekly *Moscow News* — available in English, Spanish, French, German and Arabic as well as Russian — published candid articles about manoeuvres used to ease reformers off the conference slate.

Organisers of the Soviet Union's fledgling independent political party, the Democratic Union founded on May 4, held a meeting of 1,500 people in Leningrad last weekend demanding a multi-party system and fairer delegate selection.

Smaller protests on this and other issues, such as Jewish emigration, took place daily in Moscow during the summit, with police watching in silence.

Vitaly Korotich, editor of *Ogonyok*, said Moscow students went to the city's Pushkin square last week to collect signatures on a petition demanding he be a conference delegate.

Sociologist Tatyana Zaslavskaya, writer Fyodor Burlatsky, historian Yuri Afanasyev and Korotich told Western reporters in news conferences or interviews that they failed to gain election as

delegates in an initial round of voting. Burlatsky said the problems were due to the fact that "we are learning democracy."

Korotich, too, blamed the manoeuvring on the lack of a political culture.

"We have to learn not to be afraid," he said in an interview. "We have to get rid of the Stalinist remnants. Under Stalin, it was easy. He had a theory of enemies that made everybody afraid of one another."

Normal again

Banging on a desk for emphasis, he added, "if you thought this desk was bad, you could just say it was made by enemies. Simple as that."

"Perestroika," he added, "is just a big return to the norm. We have to become normal again."

Foreign ministry press centre officials were swift to accede to Western reporters' requests for interviews with the most outspoken proponents of reform, who also took the dais at news conferences for hundreds of journalists.

Known conservatives were not seen at such forums, and were not strongly in evidence at a meeting Reagan had with writers and intellectuals last Tuesday.

This could be the result of what Gorbachev himself has described as passive, panicky resistance to his reforms. This manoeuvring has not so far emerged into a publicly identifiable political movement.

Korotich also noted that "the conservatives have not yet presented a programme, and have not suggested any new leader" to replace Gorbachev as Communist Party general secretary.

He said he expected Gorbachev to emerge strengthened from the conference.

The public relations campaign for Gorbachev's reforms that was waged during the summit certainly convinced a Moscow taxi driver, who said he was from the Soviet leader's home region in southern Russia.

"Gorbachev is like Jesus Christ," he volunteered to a Western reporter during a conversation highly critical of Soviet life. "Our children have all forgotten how to work, and he will get them going again."



Dukakis — lacking charisma, but eager to decide

By Michael Posner
Reuters

WASHINGTON — If Michael Dukakis makes it to the White House, the United States will have a leader described by associates as a decisive, well-read manager who regards government as a vehicle for problem solving.

The Massachusetts governor could move one step closer to his presidential goal on June 7 when he might clinch in the final four primaries the necessary 2,081 delegates to win the nomination as the Democratic candidate.

Polls say he will decisively defeat his lone, remaining challenger, black civil rights leader Jesse Jackson, in the California, New Jersey, Montana and New Mexico primaries.

"He likes to make decisions, it is not a responsibility he suffers with, he enjoys it," says a Harvard University professor who has worked closely with Dukakis at times and also given arms policy advice to both Democratic and Republican administrations.

Dukakis, who lacks foreign policy experience, has leaned heavily on academics and foreign

policy experts for advice in this area, according to aides who describe him as studious, an avid reader with intense interest in the ideas of others.

In addition, his associates say that his legal training and long political experience would probably make him a tough negotiator with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in any future summits.

But critics fault Dukakis as a bland technocrat with a tendency to get entangled in the mechanics of government.

Lacking Reagan's flair

By all accounts, the 54-year-old governor lacks the avuncular charm and stirring speaking style of Ronald Reagan, the man he hopes to succeed.

Dukakis freely acknowledges that he lacks Reagan's flair, but he hopes to turn the distinctions to his advantage.

"After eight years of charisma, isn't it time we had some competence in the White House?" Dukakis asks.

He wins praise from friends and foes alike for the discipline to sew up his party's presidential nomination without adopting the ultra-liberal rhetoric that has haunted recent Democratic nominees.

"He resisted the impulse to throw red meat to the Democratic left," says Republican strategist John Buckley. "He was circumspect in his rhetoric and that will help in the general election."

A fitness enthusiast, who has frequently run in the Boston marathon, Dukakis's political style is often compared to the slow and steady pace of a long distance runner.

And aides say he avidly enjoys the nuts and bolts details of policy-making.

Unlike Reagan, who seeks to avoid conflict and prefers short position papers with decision options from which he chooses, Dukakis savors internal debate.

"When we have briefing sessions, we sometimes try to stage arguments for him by having somebody there to pick a fight with him or by having two people fight with each other so he can witness agreement or disagreement between opposing points of view," says chief issues director Christopher Edley.

He is widely viewed as a cerebral, well-informed executive

with an openness to innovative policies.

"He seems to learn best when he is interacting with a very smart person who is also very strong, somebody who will push him and press him, he enjoys being tested," Edley told Reuters.

Is he dull?

What about people who find him dull?

"What you see is what you get," friends say of the unglamorous Dukakis, who buys his suits in a department store bargain basement.

Campaign manager Susan Estrich told Reuters that there would be no efforts to add sparkle to Dukakis's image.

"There is no one in this campaign who has ever suggested remaking Michael Dukakis... He knows who he is, where he's going," she told Reuters.

"One of the things we have going for us in this campaign is the sense that here is a man who is comfortable with who he is," she added. "Anything that took away from that in order to put him in some other image category would be unwise."

In fact, the campaign hopes to contrast Dukakis's common man image with the patrician background of his presidential election rival, Vice-president George Bush.

Off stage, Dukakis seems Mr. Everyman. He lives modestly in the Boston suburb of Brookline, takes rapid transit to work as governor and likes to be home every evening for dinner with his wife, Kitty.

In the front yard of his home, he likes to grow vegetables. In the evenings he talks to his neighbours.

Although he has improved his plodding public speaking style somewhat during the campaign, he often gives the impression he would rather be somewhere else, reading a book.

And his bids at humour often fall flat.

Commenting on reports that Reagan's schedule has often been dictated by Nancy Reagan's penchant for astrology, Dukakis offered:

"I don't know the difference between a horoscope and a telescope."

When groans follow, Dukakis merely shrugs.

2050 في ايلول

Looking at year 2050

Lion features

NEW YORK: The latest forecast, suggesting that the world's population could double to ten billion by the middle of the next century, will set alarms bells ringing again, not least at the headquarters of the United Nations Organisation here in New York.

For at least two decades now the U.N. has sought to focus the international community's attention on the "ticking time-bomb" represented by population growth. By 1986, the U.N. Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA), established in 1967, was involved in almost 3,000 projects in more than 130 countries.

The grave problems that an escalating global population will pose have been spelt out at a number of conferences held under U.N. auspices.

A possible doubling of the world total by the year 2050 is

among the projections made by the Washington-based Population Bureau International. It also forecasts that by then India will have become the world's most populous country.

Indians, who currently number 817 million, will have multiplied to around 1.59 billion, whereas China, which now contains about 1.1 billion people, will have about 1.55 billion, the Bureau estimates.

Probably, however, its most startling prediction is that Nigeria, now in 13th place, will become the third most populous nation. Its present estimated total of 112 millions is expected to more than quadruple to 471 million.

By the mid 21st century, too, says the Bureau, there will be no West European country among the 20 most populated in the world. They will have been replaced by developing nations such as Ethiopia, Iran, Kenya and

Zaire.

The prominence given to Nigeria's expected population growth comes at a time when the issue has been the cause of considerable controversy there.

In fact, the government's first attempt to enunciate a population policy caused such an outcry that it was forced to clarify its aims.

The Health Minister, Professor Olikoye Ransome-Kuti, told a press conference in Lagos that the government had no intention of coercing any Nigerian woman to limit the number of her children.

Its wish was to encourage a reduction in the number which she was likely to have from the current average of six to four by the year 2000.

The policy, the minister added, was directed more towards preserving the health of mothers and children than merely to reduce Nigeria's population.

Thus the government would

seek to discourage women under 18 from getting married and encourage mothers-to-be to space the birth of their children by at least two years. And men would be reminded at all times of their responsibilities towards their spouses and offspring.

The minister, who stressed that at three per cent per year, Nigeria's population rate was one of the world's highest, said that the government would make family planning services available on a nationwide but voluntary basis.

Nevertheless, he voiced concern over the consequences of a rapid population growth rate.

These included the misuse of land and a reduction in the size of farm holdings, a depletion in fuel wood supplies, the rising cost of food, clothing and housing as well as the provision of health and education services.

Israeli general sees more violence

NEW YORK (R) — The commander of Israeli troops on the occupied West Bank predicted Sunday an increase in violence in the occupied territories.

"We will experience more acts by individuals and small groups and we are going to employ forces as needed to keep the situation down," Major-General Amram Mitzna said.

"One of our goals is to deter the local Arabs from confronting Israeli security forces. We want them not to just fear an Israeli soldier, but also to respect," he told a press conference.

He said of the occupied Gaza and West Bank: "The uprising has passed its peak and is on the decline. Yet there has not been any change in the basic factors which led to the uprising."

"The uprising has achieved no result for the local population (and) is unlikely to achieve anything, at least in the near future."

He said Arab and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leaders were expected to try to keep the uprising going.

"We are taking this possibility into account and are preparing accordingly," said Mitzna, who is on a week-long speaking tour of the United States.

The relative calm and "moderation" in protests since the end of March resulted from "general exhaustion of the local population after having not received significant results," he contended.

He also cited the arrest or detention of many of those responsible for organising the protests.



An Israeli soldier stands guard at makeshift prison camp in the Negev desert where thousands of Palestinians arrested in the uprising are held by the Israeli army.

Mitzna said the presence in the occupied territories of the media, including a large number of television crews and photographers, had "become a factor which inflamed" protests.

Press demands inquiry

Meanwhile, the foreign press association (FPA) in Israel has demanded that Police Minister Haim Bar-Lev investigate the beating of two photographers at a rally in Tel Aviv.

"Though the photographers were simply trying to take pictures, they were set upon by police, repeatedly struck with

fists and clubs, and placed in a police van before an officer ordered them released," the FPA said in a cable sent to Bar-Lev.

Witnesses said photographers Sven Nackstrand of Agence France Press and Andre Brumman of the Danish Alfa Press were beaten when they photographed police asking a woman to remove a scarf displaying the colours of the Palestinian flag.

Several thousand Israelis marched down Tel Aviv's most popular street Saturday night, carrying placards and shouting slogans against Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza.

"We are sadly aware that in the past six months an odious public atmosphere has been created by this country's officials poisoning many against the foreign media," FPA Chairman Robert Slater said.

"The policemen who raised their clubs against these photographers were obviously infected by that atmosphere."

"They and others who contemplate similar attacks need to be stopped. We insist that you investigate this incident fully and punish the policemen who performed these misdeeds," the cable said.

Evren: No Cyprus pullout

ANKARA (R) — Turkish President Kenan Evren Monday ruled out a withdrawal of Turkish troops from Cyprus.

"It is out of the question that such a withdrawal may occur," he said in a statement, carried by the semi-official Anatolian news agency.

Evren's statement was carried shortly before he was to meet Kenan Atakol, Turkish-Cypriot foreign and defence minister of the self-proclaimed Turkish republic in northern Cyprus.

Divided Cyprus is the major sticking point in ties between Turkey and Greece, whose prime ministers will meet in Athens next week after a rapprochement started in January following three decades of enmity.

The statement did not make clear whether Evren was referring to a partial or full troop withdrawal.

"The Cyprus issue is a package... the package should be treated as a whole," Evren said.

He said talks with Atakol, who earlier met Foreign Minister Mesut Yilmaz, would cover economic, political and cultural issues.

Only Ankara recognises the Turkish republic of northern Cyprus, proclaimed unilaterally in 1983 on territory occupied by Turkish troops in 1974 after a short-lived coup in Nicosia inspired by the military junta then ruling Greece.

Turkish Cypriots say there are 18,000 to 19,000 Turkish troops in the top third of the island. U.N. sources estimate the number at 29,000.

Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal, now in the United States, was quoted Monday as saying a troop withdrawal was impossible.

"We can't do anything unless the pressure is over. Everybody should know this. The important point is that the two parties (in Cyprus) reach an agreement," he told the Turkish liberal daily Milliyet in New York Sunday.

"We can't pull out even one soldier as long as we are pressured," Ozal said.

Sudan shakes up army leadership

KHARTOUM (R) — The Sudanese government has pensioned off its armed forces commander and his chief of staff, but defence sources and diplomats said Monday the shakeup was not directly related to the country's deadlocked civil war.

They expressed some surprise, however, at the appointment of a naval man, Admiral Fathi Ahmad Ali, as the new armed forces commander as he had previously led only a very small force.

"We know of no combat experience acquired by Ali in Sudan," one defence source said.

"But he is a very sharp man."

The Sudanese armed forces, estimated by the west to number about 60,000 men, have been battling guerrillas of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) in the south since 1983.

Western diplomats said neither side could hope to win the war on the battlefield and only a negotiated, political settlement could end the bloodshed.

"The SPLA is fighting to end what it regards as the domination of the Christian and animist south by Sudanese from the Muslim.

Arabised north.

Head of state Ahmad Ali Mirghani announced Sunday that the government was pensioning off the armed forces commander, General Fawzi Ahmad Al Fadel, and his chief of staff, General Abdul Azeem Sidiq.

He named Ali, a British-trained admiral in his early 50s, as Fadel's successor but did not say who would replace Sidiq. Press reports said Gen. Faisal Mansour was a likely candidate.

The Khartoum daily Al Ayam said Fadel had been at odds with Defence Minister Abdul Maged Hamed Khalil, appointed three weeks ago when Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi gave up the defence portfolio which he had held since taking office in May 1986.

Mahdi told parliament that Fadel and Sidiq had led the Sudanese army through a critical

stage but had now reached the age of retirement.

He described Ali as an efficient and experienced officer and promised him the full backing of his government.

The diplomats said the government would eventually have to make peace with the southern rebels, as an earlier government did in 1972 when the south won an autonomy agreement after 17 years of civil war.

Relief officials estimate that fighting and famine in the south, where there has also been a persistent drought, has forced about half the estimated six million inhabitants to flee to other parts of Sudan or to Ethiopia.

The English-language Sudan Times said about 800 people starved to death in the 11 days to Friday in the Aweil area of Bahr Al Ghazal region, believed to be the worst hit by food shortages.

A plane arrived Saturday to take a Red Cross team to survey conditions in three government-held towns in the south but has remained at Khartoum airport.

Sources close to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) blamed administrative and other snags for its failure to leave.

Under a plan agreed by both the government and the rebels to deliver food to the south, an ICRC mission based in Kenya will visit three SPLA-held areas.

Mirghani also dismissed police chief Ibrahim Abdul Karim and his deputy Abdul Latif Ibrahim.

Sudan Television said the two men were replaced by Osman Al Shafia Mohammad and Abdullah Abdou Waken respectively.

Three weeks ago seven people, five of them foreigners, were killed in twin attacks against a hotel and a club in Khartoum.

Five men with Lebanese passports have been charged with the attacks and are expected to stand trial soon.

Last January, a gunman killed a pro-Iranian Iraqi dissident at the lobby of Khartoum's Hilton Hotel. The assailant is still at large.

Extraordinary Arab summit opens today

(Continued from page 1)

peace conference.

The Palestinian uprising — the central theme of the summit — is expected to get unanimous endorsement of the Arab leaders but the issue of Palestinian representation in peace negotiations is expected to loom into centre-stage in light of the latest American moves to bring about a Mideast peace negotiations, according to sources.

Arab sources said the issue of backing the uprising in the occupied territories would meet Arab unanimity in principle. The PLO's demand to strongly reject the U.S. initiative will cause protracted deliberations among the Arab leaders, they said.

The differences will focus on whether to close the door before the U.S. initiative or to give the chance to this initiative to bring closer the views between Israel and the Arabs on means to solve the Palestine question.

Arab unanimity is needed to adopt a decisive decision with regard to Palestinian representation in the international conference, the sources noted.

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat flew from Tunis Sunday for a secret one-hour meeting with Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Yuri Vorontsov. Palestinian sources quoted by the AP said, PLO officials said Arafat left

Algiers immediately after the unannounced meeting. He returned Monday to attend the summit.

Vorontsov earlier conferred with Benjedit. Vorontsov reportedly stressed the Soviet Union's continuing support for the PLO and its full-fledged participation in an international peace conference.

According to sources who spoke the Jordan Times, Arafat received a Soviet message which clearly demanded that the PLO leadership seek unanimous Arab decision on Palestinian representation in the called-for international conference. This would enable the Soviet Union to pursue future talks with the U.S., the sources said.

PLO sources said the organisation might accept the idea of a joint Arab delegation to the conference so that the American and Israeli rejection of dealing with the PLO could be circumvented.

Observers said the visit of Vorontsov to Algeria prior to the summit was significant, particularly that U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev discussed the Middle East during their summit in Moscow last week.

Gorbachev said in Moscow last week that the superpowers were drawing closer on the Middle East.

Analysts noted that following the apparent deadlock in the latest American push for Arab-

Israeli peace talks, Washington would be more conducive to accepting a larger Soviet role in the process, especially if such Soviet efforts would lead to breaking the stalemate.

Arab leaders started arriving here early Monday. Among the early arrivals were United Arab Emirates President Sheikh Zayed Ibn Sultan Al Nahayan, Djibouti President Hassan Gouled, Mauritanian President Mu'awieh Sid Ahmad Al Taya and Arafat.

Among Arab leaders absent from the summit will be Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and Sultan Qaboos Ibn Sa'id of Oman. Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan is leading his country's delegation while Thuwaini Ibn Shehab Al Saeed is heading the Omani delegation.

No clear information was available Monday on other items on the agenda for the summit. The Algerian information minister has said that developments since the extraordinary Arab summit held in Amman in November, the Iran-Iraq war and other issues of common interest to the Arab Nation could be discussed.

The Iraqi News Agency (INA) quoted President Hussein as saying he wanted to take part in the Algiers summit but "the circumstances of the continuous Iranian aggression on Iraq had necessitated his presence at the arena of confrontation."

Israel conducts mass arrests

(Continued from page 1)

and forests in northern Israel, a spokeswoman said.

She declined to identify the boys, but said they were from villages about 120 kilometres north of Jerusalem.

David Angel, a spokesman for an agency that manages most of Israel's forest land, said Palestinians were suspected of starting a series of brush and forest fires that have destroyed 17,500 acres of wood and pastures.

Meanwhile, an Israeli officer, Lieutenant Giora Even-Tzur, has been jailed for pelting rocks at three Palestinians placed handcuffed into stone pits outside the West Bank village of Anura, the daily Yediot Ahronot reported. The stoning incident occurred May 18 and lasted two hours.

In the West Bank, thousands of high school students returned to their classes for the first time since Israel shut all schools at the height of the uprising in February.

The army has already opened grade schools and junior highs over the past two weeks, citing a recent reduction in the number of violent incidents as a reason for resuming classes.

But students and teachers in Ramallah said returning to school did not mean an end to demonstrations.

"It's good to be back in school because without being educated we can't be liberated," said Rana Bahu, a 17-year-old senior at Friends Girls School. "We can continue demonstrating after we take our classes, but education has to also be a priority."

Socialism, communism on focus in Turkey

By John Owen-Davies

Reuters

ANKARA — Communism and radical socialism come under the legal spotlight in Turkish courts this week at a time when Turkey is striving to improve its democratic image and become a full member of the European Economic Community (EEC).

The trials of two Turkish communist leaders and a new Socialist Party will be monitored closely by London-based Amnesty International and other human rights groups.

Communism in Turkey, a North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) member bordering the Soviet Union, has been outlawed since 1924. Three socialist parties were banned after the 1980 coup and many of their leaders put on trial for illegal activities during three years of army rule.

Outcomes of the trials and of a constitutional court hearing on the Socialist Party's legality are likely to have a bearing on Turkey's application for EEC membership made 15 months ago.

About 120 Turkish writers and journalists, reiterating calls by some EEC states, published a petition this weekend demanding the lifting of curbs on expression and political action.

"All anti-democratic and anti-human rights articles must be abolished," the petition said.

Turkish President Kenan Evren, senior general during the 1980 coup, and conservative Prime Minister Turgut Ozal have said there is no room at present for a Communist Party. But they have not ruled it out at a later stage.

The trial of communists Haydar Kutlu and Nihat Sargin, each facing possible 66½-year jail terms if convicted, opens in Ankara's state security court Wednesday.

Main charges against the two men are trying to establish a Marxist-Leninist order and promoting class struggle. Lawyers said they had begun hunger strikes in prison this weekend.

The writers' petition said allegations that the two men had been tortured should be investigated. Newspaper reports earlier this year said Kutlu had suffered heart problems in detention.

Turkish officials have denied the torture allegations.

The European Court in Strasbourg, highly critical of Turkey's record on human rights, voted last November to demand the immediate release of the two men.

Prison terms of up to 3½ years each have been sought by Istanbul's state security court prosecutor for Socialist Party executives on charges of forming a group to overthrow the economic and social order of

the state, legal sources said. The trial opens Tuesday, a day after the party submits to the constitutional court in a separate case a defence text prepared by lawyers. The court, whose findings are final, will decide whether the party is legal under the 1982 constitution.

The party, led by engineer Ferit Ilsever, was set up last Feb. 1. Its manifesto calls for Turkey's withdrawal from NATO, nationalisation of foreign capital, banks and private industry and compulsory military service for women.

After the coup, which crushed political violence that claimed more than 5,000 lives, political parties were banned or dissolved. New parties emerged for the 1983 general election.

Another new political group, environmentalist "Greens," plans to apply to the Interior Ministry for formal recognition as party.

Shultz: Superpowers to pursue Mideast talks

(Continued from page 1)

part for outside powers in negotiations between Israel and the Arabs.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir opposes any Soviet role, although he plans to meet Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze at the United Nations — the latest in a series of recent contacts between two countries without formal diplomatic ties. Shamir left Israel for New York Monday.

In comments to Arab reporters Monday, Shultz said both sides could work with his proposal "if people will cast aside their extreme views, their illusions, and operate on the basis of reality."

Before meeting Assad Monday Shultz dismissed the idea of setting up an independent Palestinian state as unworkable.

He was speaking to international television networks and radio stations.

Asked if the United States would agree to an independent Palestinian state, Shultz said: "Personally I think that is unworkable and I would not think that is necessary to provide a good political outlook."

"It just does not make any sense to me to think there could be a workable state that was like a country on the West Bank and Gaza."

On the future of the Palestinians, he told the broadcasters: "I think it's much more workable to think of a grouping of people that has a relationship, a confederation or an attachment, to another state or states."

"That's more workable. But that does not lessen the fact that you have more control over the

conditions in which you live."

Asked if he had brought any new ideas to Syria to help progress towards peace, Shultz said: "I don't think it's so much what's new. It's what's here that makes it important to focus on the possibilities."

The situation in the Middle East was becoming increasingly dangerous, he said, adding: "There are very difficult problems which don't go away and we feel there are opportunities being missed."

Shultz, who earlier had talks with leaders in Egypt, Jordan and Israel on the U.S. peace plan, has sounded increasingly pessimistic about the success of his mission. Before arriving in Syria, he admitted that there had been no breakthrough on the U.S. initiative.

Shultz told reporters in Tel Aviv Sunday that improved relations between the United States

and the Soviet Union had "affected the atmosphere" in the Middle East and indicated it could make Israel and the Arab countries more amenable to a settlement.

But Shultz said he could not persuade Shamir to drop his opposition to the international peace conference and that had failed to advance the peace initiative.

He told Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres that people in the United States would not understand why the Israeli occupation authorities were expelling Mubarak Awad, an Arab-American who advocates peaceful resistance to Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza.

"As far as any major shift in anybody's position (is concerned), I cannot report that," Shultz told reporters in Tel Aviv Sunday after concluding his talks in Israel.

North Yemen to hold elections

(Continued from page 1)

survived an assassination attempt two months after taking office and an attempted military coup the following month.

The constituent People's Assembly was appointed in February 1978 for a term of two to three years with a brief to propose the form of the presidency, review the 1970 constitution and prepare for general elections.

But general elections scheduled for early 1983 were postponed and the assembly has remained in power ever since.

Saleh, announcing the election date Saturday, set a 10-day period for nomination of candidates in the 128 districts.

Political parties are banned, but Saleh said candidates would be allowed to hold public rallies as long as they did not attack or insult their opponents.

Most candidates were expected to be merchants, heads of tribes or intellectuals. More than 1.2 million of the estimated population of about nine million registered in March on electoral lists.

One of the first tasks of the new council will be to review a proposed unitary constitution with South Yemen.

The two Yemens, both of which became oil producers last year, agreed in May to take steps towards a merger.

JORDAN MARKET PLACE



RESTAURANT CHINA

The first & best Chinese Restaurant in Jordan

1st Circle, Jabal Amman, near Ahlyyah Girls School

Take away is available

Open daily 12:00-3:30 p.m.
6:30-Midnight
Tel. 638968

慕堂餐廳

MANDARIN Chinese Restaurant

The only typical Chinese cuisine in Amman.

Chinese Flaming pot is available

Take away available

Open daily 12:00 - 15:30
18:00 - 23:30

Wadi Saqra Road - near Traffic Bridge
Amman, Jordan
Tel: 661922

CHEN'S CHINESE RESTAURANT

Mecca Street, Yarmouk Engineers' Housing Estate, near Kilo Supermarket

Mongolian Barbeque for Lunch Friday only

Tel: 618214

Come and taste our specialties

Open daily 12:00 - 3:30 p.m.
6:30 - Midnight

CHINESE RESTAURANT

TAIWAN TOURISMO

Authentic Chinese Food

Korean Bar-B-Q

Charcoal Flaming Pot

Take-away service

Open daily Noon - 3:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. - midnight

Location: Near 3rd Circle opposite Akilah Hospital
Tel: 641093

Kashmir Restaurant

FIRST CLASS INDIAN RESTAURANT

Special Executive Lunches

Take away service available

Open Daily 12:30-3:30 pm
7:30-11:30 pm

After the Holiday Inn hotel Towards 3rd circle

Tel: 659519 659520

To advertise in this section



Happy Hour

from 6 - 9 p.m.
all drinks 1/2 price

At Al-Salam Bar
Sponsored by the Jordanian Press Syndicate

Call 667171-6
670141-4
ext. 223

EVERY DAY

PEOPLE WHO NEED

MAINTENANCE SERVICES

CALL US

Electrolux

P.O. Box 925229 AMMAN

Tel. 604671

CROWN INTERNATIONAL ESTABLISHMENT

packing, shipping, forwarding, storage, clearing, door-to-door service

Agents all over the world

Tel: 664090 660882
Tel: 22255 BEIRUT 30
P.O. Box 82947 AMMAN JORDAN

JORDAN HOME MAINTENANCE CENTRE

Your single source supplier of quality general hardware, kitchenware, camping products, paints, general tools, cleaning products, garden and maintenance products for D.I.Y. and professionals.

Jabal Amman - 3rd Circle near Zahran Police Station

Tel. 647134

CBJ steadies jittery market

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Economics Correspondent

AMMAN — The Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) Monday fixed the price of the dollar at 356 and 360 fils for commercial banks and financial institutions, and left moneychanging houses to quote higher prices, apparently for an interim period.

The central bank was selling dollars to banks and finance companies at 360 fils, to be resold at 365 fils. Moneychangers were buying at 370 fils and selling at 375. Demand for the dollar continued to be higher than supply, market sources told the Jordan Times.

The margin between the selling and buying rates was cut down to 30 per cent of its level before the new regulations.

A government announcement Sunday said the central bank will start posting daily binding rates for foreign currencies, beginning Monday.

A statement carried by Petra said a special committee set up by the government approved the broad principles of new regulations at a meeting chaired by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai.

Economist Fahed Fanek told the Jordan Times he believes that Monday's dollar prices were too low to reduce a high demand for the U.S. currency.

He said the central bank was apparently "testing the market," but that higher prices, possibly around 370 - 380 fils would have been "more reasonable."

Fanek said that keeping the dollar's price at around Monday's rates (355 - 360) amounts to "promoting a black market," through non-complying commercial banks and moneychangers.

Asked whether he was in favour of a dinar devaluation, Fanek said: "It had been devalued already... what they (the central bank) call a black market is in fact the real market and I think the official market should be directed by the free market rather than the other way around."

He said that people "could live with a 400 fils dollar, provided the price is stable." He added that nearly 90 per cent of the extra demand for the dollar was "going for capital flight and speculation."

"Why should the central bank subsidise these buyers with lower prices," Fanek asked. "I am for realistic pricing, and that is higher prices."

He explained that higher dollar prices were "good for exporters and the treasury and bad for importers and consumers."

"We have to decide where our priorities lie," he asserted.

Fanek said he advocated a free market policy which he believes could bring down prices and achieve more stability in a systematic way rather than orders.

He said interest rates were low and that there was a need for at least a two per cent interest jump.

He pointed out that Jordan has a \$500 million in gold and \$1.5

billion in foreign currency deposited with commercial banks.

An authoritative source close to the central bank said there will be "more instructions to follow over the next few days, in relation to dealing in foreign currencies."

The source told the Jordan Times that "there will be more flexibility," but refused to elaborate. He added that the central bank plans "to leave moneychangers alone for the time being."

"The volume of their dealings is very limited and we will leave it for now," he said.

Commenting on the prices moneychangers were quoting Monday (370 - 375 fils to the dollar), he said that many of them bought dollars at a high price and thus, they are selling at a higher price.

Salfiti securities chief dealer Fuad Batshon said the CBJ took "the right decision" by fixing daily prices of foreign currencies, but that the central bank needs to follow up on their checking and controls system.

Batshon said commercial banks and financial institutions were buying the dollar at 360 from the central bank and selling at 365 Monday. "It is all done in an organised and proper manner. You feel there is satisfaction."

He added that the new measures would increase the inflow of foreign currencies into the Kingdom.

Banking sources said that monetary measures such as the ones taken by the central bank would be ineffective without being taken as part of a package of new fiscal policy changes and adjustments.

IMF chief stresses coordination

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States and other big countries should coordinate economic policy because no single government can any longer underwrite world prosperity, the head of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) urged Monday.

Managing Director Michel Camdessus was apparently referring to attempts to mesh major economic policy among the Group of Seven, known as G-7. That includes the United States, Britain, West Germany, Japan, Italy, Canada and his native France.

The Soviet Union is not among the fund's 151 member governments.

"The relative strength of the European Community and Japan has grown, making the U.S. economy a less dominant force than it once was," Camdessus said.

"Indeed, no single government can any longer underwrite world prosperity or stability for the world as a whole," he noted.

Economists say, for example, that it would be disastrous if all members of G-7 made an all-out effort to increase their exports to one another at the same time.

Efforts to tighten coordination have been discouraged by events following last year's agreement in Paris that the price of the U.S. dollar had fallen enough. After that came October's stock market crash and the continued fall of the

dollar. Camdessus said it may never be possible to get total agreement among governments at any given time, but it should be possible to make their policies more compatible.

"Unless a satisfactory answer can be given to the question 'what's in it for us?' cooperation will be at best insubstantial," he said.

He listed cases where national policies, urged for the benefit of the world as a whole, could in his view also help the countries that adopt them. Camdessus said that:

— More reduction of the U.S. budget deficit would enable the United States to sell more of its goods abroad without crowding out U.S. private spending or spurring inflation. He said it also would pave the way for lasting reductions in interest rates and make it easier for future U.S. governments to be more flexible about taxes and government spending.

— Western Europe and Japan should be vigorous about "structural reforms" which would speed up both their growth and



Michel Camdessus

the growth of the rest of the world. He did not give details, but Western Europe and Japan have been repeatedly urged to turn attention away from exports and produce more for home markets.

— If some newly industrialised countries gradually reduced their big surpluses in world trade, they and the world would both be helped. Again Camdessus did not explain, but Taiwan and South Korea have been frequently advised to do some of the same restructuring recommended to Japan and Western Europe.

— Heavily indebted countries should be more resolute about making sound policies and needed reforms, backed by debt reductions and new loans from creditor countries.

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

Activity on the Amman Financial Market for June 6, 1988.

	Number	Volume	Contracts
Regular market:	271152	JD 282834	383
Top three companies:			
Arab Bank Ltd.	545	JD 62130	5
Darco for Housing and Investment	95440	JD 43150	98
Arab Aluminium Manufacturing	16750	JD 28555	30
Parallel market:	98349	JD 43385	—
Development bonds:	—	—	—
Treasury bills & bonds:	—	—	—
Other debentures:	—	—	—

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One Sterling	1.8022/32	U.S. dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.2300/10	Canadian dollar
	1.7205/15	Deutschmarks
	1.9310/20	Dutch guilders
	1.4360/70	Swiss francs
	35.95/36.00	Belgian francs
	5.8175/8225	French francs
	1279/1280	Italian lire
	126.13/26	Japanese yen
	6.0130/80	Swedish crowns
	6.2800/50	Norwegian crowns
	6.5510/60	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	464.00/464.50	U.S. dollars

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

SYDNEY — Solid demand for gold-related stocks pushed the national share market higher. The All Ordinaries Index rose 16.9 points to close at 1,598.6.

TOKYO — The Nikkei Index reached a record high close, just below 28,000 points after robust trade, but ended lower than morning peaks. The index closed up 89.76 points, 0.32 per cent, at 27,996.24 after an earlier peak of 28,059.97.

HONG KONG — Share prices retreated after breaking the 2,600 barrier in early trading and ended the day cautiously higher. The Hang Seng index finished 22.04 points up at 2,590.39.

SINGAPORE — Prices closed firmer across the board for the ninth straight session in very active trading, but intermittent afternoon profit-taking pared gains slightly. The Straits Times Industrial index rose 11.22 to 1,035.12.

BOMBAY — Prices closed higher but off pre-bourse levels after a lack of orders saw prices fall back at mid-session. The Commerce Bank Index, set at mid-session, rose 5.1 to 1,412.9.

ZURICH — Prices closed firmer across the board on high turnover as the steady dollar and the record high in Tokyo boosted market sentiment. The All-Share Swiss Index closed at 846.3 points, 8.4 points above Friday's close.

PARIS — French share prices ended near the day's highs in moderate trade following Sunday's first round of legislative elections. The 50-share bourse indicator ended 1.23 per cent up.

LONDON — Shares firmed in late afternoon, having been mixed to steady for much of the day, as Wall Street recovered most of an early double-digit decline. By 1431 GMT, the FTSE 100 share index was up 7.9 points to 1,827.1.

NEW YORK — Wall Street stocks were narrowly lower after regaining most of their early losses. The Dow 30 index was down four at 2,067.

Taiwan bourse booms

TAIPEI (R) — The 26-year-old Taiwan stock market hit a record high Monday surging past another all-time peak set last month.

The stock index rose 100.35 points or 2.1 per cent to 4,876.34 against the previous high of 4,785.03 on May 16.

"Our bourse is reacting to the worldwide stock bounce and continuing its upward trends with vigorous speed," exchange vice president Tracy Cheng said in an interview.

"Now many investors (will) turn their eyes on Wall Street. If it rises when it reopens Monday, then the stock index of our bourse will breach the 5,000 mark this week," he said.

Analysts said the bullish local sentiment reflected continuing gains in Tokyo and New York. Excess liquidity, limited local investment outlets, low bank interest rates and optimistic prospects for economic growth in Taiwan this year contributed to the rally, they added.

David Hsu, vice president of Jardine Fleming Taiwan, said Taiwan had surpassed Japan and South Korea as the world's fastest growing market.

U.S. protests Israeli barriers

TEL AVIV (R) — The United States has protested to Israel over trade taxes it says violate a free trade agreement the two countries signed three years ago, diplomatic sources said Monday.

They said Washington sought the removal of an import price-equalisation tax and purchase taxes which raised the prices of U.S. manufactured goods to uncompetitive levels.

"The U.S. has told Israel there are certain Israeli practices we have concerns about. We have raised those concerns through diplomatic channels," U.S. embassy spokesman Don Cofman told Reuters.

He said Deputy U.S. Trade Representative Michael Smith would raise the issues in Jerusalem this week during regular six-monthly talks to review the free trade accord, which gives Israeli products privileged access to American markets.

The United States is Israel's biggest single trade partner

although the Zionist state does more business with the 12-nation European Community (EC).

Israel radio said U.S. Ambassador Thomas Pickering had written Trade and Industry Minister Ariel Sharon a tough letter complaining of "artificial steps and arbitrary taxes" to make U.S. imports dearer.

Sharon's office said the minister would not allow the United States to put economic pressure on Israel, adding that his duty was to protect Israeli production as other countries did.

It said Israel would raise American protectionist practices in the trade talks.

The foreign ministry sounded a more conciliatory note. An official said Israel recognised that Washington had a legitimate point on the trade taxes and would try to deal with it practically in this week's discussions.

Excluding military items and diamonds, Israel exported goods worth \$1.65 billion to the United States in 1987 and imported goods worth \$1.895 billion.

The EC sold more than twice as much as it bought from Israel last year. Israeli imports were \$4.87 billion dwarfing exports of \$2.40 billion.

Diplomatic sources said the United States and the European Community were working together to press Israel to drop discriminatory trade barriers.

The Israeli parliament is currently debating new legislation, proposed by the government, to give the trade ministry wide discretionary powers to impose levies on imports.

The diplomats said several European governments had expressed concern over these moves.

Greek strike worsens

ATHENS (R) — Bus and taxi drivers as well as doctors Monday swelled a wave of strikes hitting Greece, with workers mainly de-

manding higher wages and improved working conditions.

Army trucks were brought in to ferry people to and from work after bus and taxi drivers launched a 48-hour nationwide strike over pension and social security rights.

Social security doctors started a five-day strike over working conditions and bank employees threatened to start a 48-hour strike Tuesday if their demands for a wage increase were not met Monday.

A four-hour strike by air traffic controllers over wages and pensions was expected to disrupt all domestic and international flights into the country between 0400-0800 GMT Tuesday, with flights either cancelled or postponed.

A teachers' strike entered its third week after weekend talks with the government failed to satisfy demands for increased pay and more spending on education.

Salaries were frozen for two years under an austerity programme which ended last October.

British commercial banks raise base rate to 8.5%

LONDON (AP) — Britain's commercial banks, heeding a signal from the Bank of England, raised their base lending rate Monday by half a percentage point to 8.5 per cent.

It was the second increase in the benchmark rate in less than a week, and represents an aggressive move by the government to boost the sagging pound and counter inflationary pressures.

Barclays Bank PLC, Midland Bank PLC and Lloyds Bank PLC said they raised the rate effective immediately. National Westminster Bank PLC was expected to follow suit.

The Bank of England signalled the increase by raising a key

money market intervention rate of its own to 8.5 per cent.

Last Thursday, the central bank signalled a rise in the base rate to eight per cent from 7.5 per cent after the pound dropped sharply on foreign exchange markets.

The base rate increase that followed was effective Friday.

The foreign exchange market reacted calmly to the latest increase, dealers said, because a rate hike was widely anticipated.

"It was going to happen sooner or later, and it happened sooner," one dealer said.

Corporate borrowers can obtain loans at one percentage point above the prevailing base rate.

Coming Soon

SAFeway INTERNATIONAL

AER YOU A BOWLER

COME ON IN AND SEE FOR YOURSELF. OUR AS-10 AUTOMATIC SCORERS. IT IS OUR 1988 SURPRISE.

AMMAN BOWLING CENTER

JARAL AMMAN - 1st CIRCLE - RAINBOW ST. - ABU DHABIB CENTER

TEL. 69885 - P.O. BOX 1147 - AMMAN.

JOB OPENINGS

Yarmouk University invites applications for faculty at the Instructor and Assistant Professor Levels in French Language and Literature, German Language and Literature and Spanish Language and Literature to teach at the Department of Foreign Languages.

A candidate must have an M.A. or Ph.D. degree in one of these languages and a minimum of two years teaching experience at the university level.

Those interested should contact Staff Affairs Division on the university campus to fill out the official forms.

Application deadline is July 1, 1988

WANTED

Filipino live-in maid to take care of two children.

Please call 687166, from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

FOR RENT

Newly furnished 3 bedroom apartment with European-style furniture and appliances. Independent telephone and central heating. Immediate availability. Located in Shmeisani near new Safeway.

For further info. please call 649040/667429

FOR RENT — AREA FOURTH CIRCLE

4 apartments deluxe building 3-bedrooms each salon, dining room, kitchen, 2 bathrooms and 2 verandas. Separate central heating and parking.

For more information please contact 674493

DELUXE FLAT FOR RENT

Consists of 3 bedrooms, salon, modern kitchen, balcony, two bathrooms, separate central heating and telephone. Location: near Gardens Street, Tia' Ali, Amman.

Please call Tel No. 671568.

Cinema **CONCORD** Tel: 677420

EXTREMITIES

Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema **RAINBOW** Tel: 625153

THE NIGHT THE LIGHTS WENT OUT IN GEORGIA

Performances 3:15, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema **NIJOUN CINEMA** «Formerly Opera» Tel: 675571

PINK NIGHTS

Performances 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema **PLAZA** Tel: 677420

THREE MEN AND A BABY

Performances 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Porto ends league season in champion style

LISBON (R) — Porto rounded off the Portuguese League season in win champions' style Sunday, crushing arch-rivals Benfica 3-0 to win the title by a remarkable 15 points. A second-half double from Jaime Pacheco and a last-gasp goal by Rui Barros underlined the home side's superiority over the beaten European Cup finalists in front of 90,000 fans. The two sides meet again Friday in the semifinals of the Portuguese Cup, a clash which means the third qualifier for next season's UEFA Cup is still not known.

Mauritian players attack Kenyan referee

MAPUTO (R) — Riot police moved in to restore order after Mauritian players beat up Kenyan referee Joash Mwanga Ambani during an African Champions' Cup soccer tie, eyewitnesses said. Ambani was kicked and chased around Maputo's Machava Stadium Sunday after he had awarded a disputed penalty to Mozambique's army team Matchedje against Sunrise of Mauritius. The Mozambicans scored the penalty. The police moved on to the pitch again when Sunrise players challenged an offside decision and threatened another attack on the referee. Matchedje, who lost the first leg of the second-round tie 2-0 in Mauritius two weeks ago, won Sunday's second leg 5-1 to become the first Mozambican team to reach the quarter-finals.

U.S. Olympic fund helps Omani boxers

MUSCAT (AP) — The U.S. Olympic Association Friendship Fund Monday came to the rescue of two Arab boxers lacking facilities to train for the Seoul Olympics. The pair left for the United States financed by the fund which was set up during the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games. Omani Olympic hopefuls Hani Al Harthy, 26, and Abdullah Al Barwani, 25, will train for three months with U.S. coaches at the Olympic training centre in Marquette, Michigan. Boxing is such a new sport in the Gulf state there are only three boxing rings in the country.

Fourth rider dies on Isle of Man T.T. course

DOUGLAS, Isle of Man (R) — A fourth fatality in as many days on the notorious Isle of Man Tourist Trophy (T.T.) motorcycling course marked the day local people call "mad Sunday." Police said Stephen Hall, 21, died instantly when his machine was in collision with a car. A non-competitor, he was taking part in the traditional "lapping of the course" Sunday.

Beasant agrees terms with Newcastle

NEWCASTLE, England (R) — Newcastle have agreed terms of £750,000 (\$1.35 million) for goalkeeper Dave Beasant, a heroic figure in Wimbledon's surprise English F.A. Cup final win over Liverpool last month. "We have spoken to the player after agreeing terms. All that is needed now is his reply," Newcastle general manager Russell Cushing said Monday.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
© 1987 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

FEELING THE PINCH

North-South vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
♠ J 8 5
♥ A 2
♦ K Q 5 3
♣ K 10 6 4

WEST
♠ 6 4 3
♥ Q 8 6 5
♦ 10 8 4 2
♣ A J

EAST
♠ Void
♥ K J 10 7 4
♦ J 9
♣ Q 8 7 5 3

SOUTH
♠ A K Q 10 9 7 2
♥ 9 3
♦ A 7 6
♣ 2

The bidding:
North: 1♣ — 1♦ — 2♦ — 3♦ — 4♦ — 5♦ — 6♦ — 7♦ — 8♦ — 9♦ — 10♦ — 11♦ — 12♦ — 13♦ — 14♦ — 15♦ — 16♦ — 17♦ — 18♦ — 19♦ — 20♦ — 21♦ — 22♦ — 23♦ — 24♦ — 25♦ — 26♦ — 27♦ — 28♦ — 29♦ — 30♦ — 31♦ — 32♦ — 33♦ — 34♦ — 35♦ — 36♦ — 37♦ — 38♦ — 39♦ — 40♦ — 41♦ — 42♦ — 43♦ — 44♦ — 45♦ — 46♦ — 47♦ — 48♦ — 49♦ — 50♦ — 51♦ — 52♦ — 53♦ — 54♦ — 55♦ — 56♦ — 57♦ — 58♦ — 59♦ — 60♦ — 61♦ — 62♦ — 63♦ — 64♦ — 65♦ — 66♦ — 67♦ — 68♦ — 69♦ — 70♦ — 71♦ — 72♦ — 73♦ — 74♦ — 75♦ — 76♦ — 77♦ — 78♦ — 79♦ — 80♦ — 81♦ — 82♦ — 83♦ — 84♦ — 85♦ — 86♦ — 87♦ — 88♦ — 89♦ — 90♦ — 91♦ — 92♦ — 93♦ — 94♦ — 95♦ — 96♦ — 97♦ — 98♦ — 99♦ — 100♦

Opening lead: Five of ♣
Even if you think you have only one chance for your contract, don't take the plunge before you need to. Sometimes just running a long suit can do wonders.

South's jump to five spades asked specifically about heart control. Theoretically, the correct action with the North hand was a cue-bid of six hearts, which would have led to the same contract.

The bidding made it easy for West to get his side off to a good start with a heart lead—any other salvo would have given South considerable breathing room. After winning the ace, it seemed that the only hope for the contract was to find an even diamond split so that declarer could take a discard on the long diamond in the North hand. However, that represented only a 36 percent chance for his contract, so declarer elected to postpone touching that suit in favor of running all his spades.

With one trump to play, all hands had been reduced to six cards. In dummy, declarer retained four diamonds and king and another club, while West came down to four diamonds, the ace of clubs and a heart. When declarer led his last spade, West had to make an unfortunate discard. He had to keep all four diamonds to protect against dummy's suit, and he could not let go of the ace of clubs; so he was forced to part with his last heart.

Reading the cards perfectly, declarer discarded a diamond from dummy and then led a club. West won the ace, but he was now forced to return a diamond. Declarer scored the last four tricks with three diamonds and the king of clubs.

THE BETTER HALF

By Harris

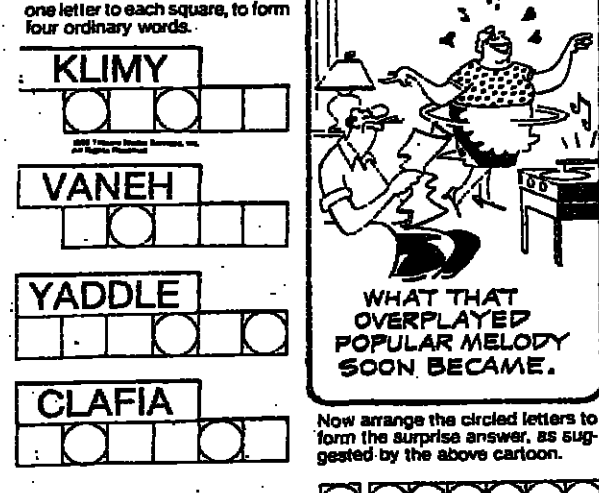


"Don't be embarrassed, sir. For your first time with chopsticks I think you did remarkably well."

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee



Print answer here: _____

Yesterday's Jumbles: OLDER PUTTY BAFFLE COMPEL
Answer: He called himself "adult," but others called him this—"A DOLT."

Baseball Standings

NEW YORK (R) — Major league baseball standings after Sunday's games:

American League Eastern Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York Yankees	35	18	.661	—
Cleveland Indians	33	21	.611	2½
Detroit Tigers	31	21	.596	3½
Milwaukee Brewers	29	26	.527	7
Boston Red Sox	25	26	.490	8
Toronto Blue Jays	27	29	.482	9½
Baltimore Orioles	12	42	.222	23½

Western Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oakland Athletics	38	16	.704	—
Minnesota Twins	27	25	.519	10
Texas Rangers	27	27	.500	11
Kansas City Royals	27	28	.491	11½
Chicago White Sox	23	30	.434	14½
Seattle Mariners	23	33	.411	16
California Angels	20	35	.364	18½

National League Eastern Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York Mets	37	17	.685	—
Pittsburgh Pirates	31	24	.564	6½
St. Louis Cardinals	30	25	.545	7½
Chicago Cubs	27	27	.500	10
Montreal Expos	26	27	.491	10½
Philadelphia Phillies	21	31	.404	15

Western Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles Dodgers	31	18	.636	—
Houston Astros	28	24	.538	2½
San Francisco Giants	27	24	.524	3
Cincinnati Reds	24	31	.438	7½
San Diego Padres	24	30	.444	7½
Atlanta Braves	18	33	.353	12

U.S. boxers beat East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

East Europeans

36 motorists to compete in Jordan rally

By Rania Attalla
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The seventh Jordan International Rally kicks off on June 15 with tough competition facing last year's Middle East series champion Mohammad Bin Sulayem.

Thirty six competitors, including 21 Jordanians, have registered for the 3-day event — third round of this year's Middle East Championship series.

During the first and second Middle East rallies, held in Qatar and Kuwait respectively, Bin Sulayem of the United Arab Emirates finished first while Saeed Al Hajri of Qatar came second.

Bin Sulayem was number one in the 1987 Middle East championship with a total of 134 points while Al Hajri had a total of 100 points.

Michel Saleh of Lebanon, who was number one in the 1981 and 1982 Jordan rallies, is currently number three with 18 points. He came third in this year's Qatar Rally but could not complete the second round of the Kuwait Rally because his car broke down.

David Llewelin, the 1984 British national champion, and his British co-driver Phil Short are expected to be the starting team in this month's event. Llewelin and Short came in sixth position in the 1987 RAC Lombard Rally, one of the rounds of the World Rally championships.

On the local front, Jordan's 1987 rally champion Hani Bisharat, and this year's leading competitor His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah, are expected to perform well in this month's rally.

Prince Abdullah came in third place in last month's Tal Al Rumman Hill Climb, and along with co-driver Ali Bilbeisi, he won the Jerash Rally earlier this year.

The International Rally, sponsored by Rothmans, covers 1,295 kilometres with 37 special stages. The first leg, crossing the northern part of the Kingdom, starts at the Roman Amphitheatre in Amman and passes through the city of Jerash, the first of three servicing and regrouping stations. The second leg takes drivers south towards the ancient Nabatean city of Petra, the second servicing

and regrouping point, while the third and last leg of the rally takes competitors through the King's Highway to Qatranah and back to the Alia Gateway Hotel near the Queen Alia International Airport, the last of three service and regrouping points. The finish line will be at the Amman Marriott Hotel, where results are expected to be out on the last day, June 17.

Four officials from the Federation Internationale du Sport Automobile (FISA) are expected to arrive in Amman within the coming week to study the possibility of the Jordan Rally qualifying for the World Rally Championship. The Jordan Rally has twice been nominated by FISA as a candidate for the World Rally Championship.

Following is a final entry list according to starting order with the nationality of each team, and their cars' group and class:

Nbr.	Driver/co-driver	Car	Nat.	Grp/Class
1	David Llewelin/Phil Short	Audi Quattro A2	GB/GB	B / 12
2	Mohd Bin Sulayem/Ronan Morgan	Toyota Celica Turbo	UAE/GB	B / 12
3	Saeed Al-Hajri/Saeed Bora	Audi Quattro A2	Q/GB	B / 12
4	Michel Saleh/Abdullah Al Hajri	Audi Quattro A2	Q/GB	B / 12
5	Hani Bisharat/Walid Moutar	Toyota Celica GT	J/GB	B / 12
6	Khaled Dallah/Al Hajri	Nissan 240 RS	J/GB	B / 12
7	H R H Prince Abdullah/Al Bilbeisi	Opel Manta 400	J/GB	B / 12
8	George Khayyat/Al Hajri	Nissan 240 RS	J/GB	B / 12
9	Issa Halabi/Lah Al Qassem	Nissan 240 RS	J/GB	B / 12
10	Josnek Masek/Erwin Reschke	Toyota Celica 200 1600	D/O	A / 8
11	Ola Stromberg/Per Carlsson	Saab 900 T 16	SS	A / 8
12	Nabil Karam/Serge Talabani	Opel Manta 400	J/GB	D / 12
13	Mohammad Shant/Abdullah A. Kassi	Nissan 240 RS	J/GB	B / 12
14	Sadoun Al Khatib/Kevork Sarayan	Opel Manta 400	Q/GB	B / 12
15	Maurice Schneidman/Al Stephen	Saab 900 T 16	Q/GB	B / 12
16	Ali Al Barwani/Mohd Al Zaid	Opel Manta 400	J/GB	B / 12
17	Mohd Al Asaad/Bashar Abu Kura	Audi Quattro A2	J/GB	B / 12
18	Nasser Bustam/Bashar Bustam	Nissan 240 RS	J/GB	B / 12
19	Nabil Durrani/Bashar	Opel Manta 400	J/GB	B / 12
20	Shari Jami Bin Nasser/Ousama Marar	Toyota Celica GT	J/GB	B / 12
21	Abd Al Mouta/Serge Talabani	Mitsubishi Lancer Turbo	J/GB	B / 12
22	Sarkis Soueidan/Andre Soueidan	Toyota Celica GT	J/GB	B / 12
23	Alfred Shamoun/Philip Alam	Saab 900 T 16	J/GB	B / 12
24	Lester Featherstone/Shaughnessy/Kenneth Speak	Volvo 240 Turbo	UK/GB	B / 12
25	Zaher Abdelmazen/Daoud	Datsun Charmant	J/GB	B / 12
26	Mithal Askour/Nicola Baleh	Volvo 240 Turbo	J/GB	B / 12
27	Mohd Al Jarrah/Al Hajri	Volvo 240	J/GB	B / 12
28	Mohd Al Maki/Abdullah Al Maki	Datsun Charmant	J/GB	B / 12
29	Abdel Elsh Mahmas/Mahar Farri	Land Rover Pickup	J/GB	B / 12
30	Amjad Farahat/Al Bilbeisi	Datsun Charmant	J/GB	B / 12
31	Mohd Ousaid/Serge Bustam	Lada VFTS	J/GB	B / 12
32	Han Nasser/Walid Nabous	Saab 900 T 16	J/GB	B / 12
33	Ayman Zayed/Mohd Al Nisour	Datsun 240 GT	J/GB	B / 12
34	Manwan Abu Hamad/Walid Mihar	Toyota Celica ST	J/GB	B / 12
35	Ammar A. Shahr/Al Hajri	Toyota Celica GT	J/GB	B / 12
36	Mohammad Bustam/Suhan Nisour	Datsun 210	J/GB	B / 12

FRENCH OPEN

Champs take \$500,000 in two-and-a-half hours

PARIS (R) — If you want to know the secret of how to get rich quick in Paris, ask Mats Wilander and Steffi Graf.

The two tennis champions walked off with winners' cheques worth more than half a million dollars between them this weekend. To earn them, they spent less than two-and-a-half hours on court in total to win their finals at the French Open.

The men's and women's singles showdowns were over so quickly that spectators at Roland Garros were left grumbling that they had barely got their money's worth in two of the most one-sided matches seen on the last weekend of a modern Grand Slam event.

Wilander needed one hour 52 minutes to defeat Frenchman Henri Leconte 7-5, 6-2, 6-1 on Sunday for his third French Open title.

Unlike Graf, who shattered the dreams of Soviet teenager Natalia Zvereva Saturday in a 34-minute 6-0, 6-0 whitewash, the Swede was not apologetic.

Wilander said after accepting his winner's trophy: "I know Steffi Graf said she was sorry it was short. I'm not sorry at all. I'm very happy."

He and Graf, the West German world number one, share the distinction of winning all three of

the two-week events in 1988 — the Australian Open, the International Players' Championships in Key Biscayne and now the French Open.

The Key Biscayne event does not count towards the Grand Slam but with two of the four events under their belts, attention is inevitably focused on their chances of winning the third stage at Wimbledon starting on June 20.

Wilander, who vastly prefers clay to grass, has never gone beyond the quarter-finals at Wimbledon but his confidence has at least been boosted by the ease of his victory in Paris.

"It's possible but it's still a dream," he said. "I know it will be tough for me." But as Leconte pointed out: "All the time we were saying it would be tough for (five times Wimbledon champion Bjorn) Borg and he did it."

If Wilander and reached the 1987 Wimbledon final, he and Graf, the West German world number one, would now share the staggering record of having appeared in all the last five Grand Slam finals as well as helping their countries to the top success in international team competition.

TRACK AND FIELD

Rono, Williams and Gray shine at Canadian meet

BURNABY, British Columbia (R) — Peter Rono of Kenya drew away on the final lap to breeze to victory in the men's 1,500 metres at the Harry Jerome International Athletic Classic Sunday.

Rono clocked three minutes 35.59 seconds to beat Canadian Doug Consiglio, who was second in 3:35.82. Favourite Sydney Maree of the U.S., running his first outdoor 1,500 of the season, faded on the final lap and finished fifth in 3:39.81.

The best race of the day was the men's 800 metre where American Johnny Gray ran away from the field in 1:43.70, the fastest time over the distance this year. Sammy Koskei of Kenya was second in 1:45.93 and Canadian Paul Osland was third in 1:46.26.

Canadian Lynn Williams, 1984 Olympic bronze medalist in the 3,000 metres, ran the fastest women's 1,500 metres of the year — four minutes 04.25 seconds — just a couple of hours after U.S. Olympic hopeful Linda Sheskey had set the 1988 standard at a meet in Los Angeles with a time of 4:07.41.

Canadian Julie Rocheleau rebounded from last week's disappointment to easily win the women's 100-metre hurdles.

Rocheleau won in 12.99 seconds to turn back a strong challenge by American Benita Fitzgerald-Brown, the 1984 Olympic gold medalist, and Stephanie Hightower. Fitzgerald-Brown ran 13.64 and Hightower was third in 13.95.

Last week at the Bruce Jenner Classic Grand Prix event in San Jose, California, Rocheleau stumbled when she hit the third hurdle and did not finish the race.

Kingdom beats Foster

In Los Angeles, Olympic champion Roger Kingdom continued his comeback by upsetting two-time world champion Greg Foster in the fastest 110 metres hurdles this year, 13.30 seconds, at the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) Invitational Athletics meet Sunday.

Quadruple Olympic gold medalist Carl Lewis continued his preparations for the Seoul Games with a victory in a relatively slow 100 metres.

STUDY IN CANADA NEXT YEAR

CANADIAN OFFICE FOR NATIONAL TRAINING AND RECRUITMENT OF APPLIED ARTS, COMMERCE AND TECHNOLOGY STUDENTS

Offers you a unique opportunity to live and complete your studies at its Colleges & Universities at the academic, Under-Graduate & Graduate programs.

Offered in English, the programs starting September/88-89 include:

Business Administration	Legal Studies
Business Marketing	Computer Science
Law & Security Administration	Civil Aviation
Airport Management & Operation	Civil Engineering
Electronic Engineering	Marine Navigation & Engineering
Mechanical Engineering	Hotel & Tourism Management
English As A Second Language	General Arts & Sciences
Biology	Political Science
Dental Hygiene	Nursing & Health Care
Advertising	Jewellery & Metals
Design & Visual Arts	Interior Design

Various types of accommodation are available by campus.

Million S. African blacks stage strike against labour bill

JOHANNESBURG (R) — More than a million blacks backed one of South Africa's biggest strikes Monday, launching a three-day nationwide protest against government curbs on political dissent and black trade unions.

The independent labour monitoring group said initial reports showed over a million workers stayed away from jobs around Johannesburg. South Africa's industrial heartland, but the situation was not clear in other areas.

"It will probably be a strike as big as any over the past four or five years, if not bigger," said a spokesman for the monitoring group.

The Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU), which called the strike, estimated up to three million workers stayed at home. It said its calculations were based on figures provided by mass transportation systems.

Anglo American Corporation, the huge mining house, said its gold mines, including the world's largest in Orange Free State province, reported normal production.

Police reported a largely peaceful start to the protest, which has attracted wide support despite severe restrictions imposed on the organisers by a two-year-old state of emergency.

COSATU and the National

Council of Trade Unions, grouping 1.5 million black workers, called the protest against the labour relations amendment bill which would curtail their powers.

Reports from employers' organisations said the Johannesburg region was hardest hit by strike, with up to 90 per cent of the factory and shop work force staying away.

Johannesburg, the country's largest city whose streets are normally crowded with black employees, was largely shunned by the work force living in satellite townships.

Large army contingents patrolled townships and kept watch on train, bus and taxi stations to

thwart what police described as "intimidation of people trying to commute to jobs."

"We will protect anybody wishing to go to work and step in if there is any sign of intimidation," a police spokesman said.

No casualties were reported in the few incidents which marked

the start of the protest. A railway line was bombed in Soweto, the country's largest township outside Johannesburg, and a train station was gutted by arsonists at Umhlabatona on the south coast.

In townships around Johannesburg, police in trucks shuttled through largely deserted streets offering lifts to workers unable to reach the city because of the absence of many bus drivers.

COSATU's largest affiliate, the National Union of Mineworkers, said its members were out in large numbers at diamond mines around Kimberley and at several collieries.

The strike was partly prompted by the effective banning of 17 anti-apartheid organisations in February in a continued government clampdown on black dissent under the emergency.

The chief target of the black unions however was the labour relations amendment bill, now

This story was written under South Africa's state of emergency which imposes severe reporting restrictions.

Waldheim welcomes 'trial' ruling

VIENNA (Agencies) — Austrian President Kurt Waldheim Monday welcomed a mock television trial ruling that he was unlikely to have committed Nazi war crimes and said he hoped the finding would bring the controversy to a close.

Speaking to the Austrian Press Agency during a current visit to Saudi Arabia, Waldheim said the judgment of the television inquiry, broadcast in Britain Sunday night, was proof that accusations against him were "slanders with no basis of evidence."

In the programme, five retired judges from various countries issued a verdict based on 170 hours of evidence from 35 witnesses including several soldiers who had served with Waldheim in Hitler's army in the Balkans.

The programme was produced by Britain's Commercial Thames television and the U.S. Cable network home box office.

Waldheim, a former United Nations secretary-general, said the ruling confirmed what he had been saying for three years — "that the allegations against me were slanders with no basis of evidence."

"I hope this will finally bring some peace," he said.

Waldheim said he believed the programme's findings would have a calming effect in Austria and "more important, I believe it will make an impression on those Western countries who are reserved and hesitant towards me."

Waldheim has been largely shunned by Western leaders since he was elected two years ago amid allegations that he was in-



Kurt Waldheim

involved in war crimes while serving in the Balkans.

In Vienna, Ralph Scheide a spokesman for the president dismissed the trial as having "nothing in common with a legal process," but welcomed the findings.

The judges drew a clear distinction between the terrible events in the Balkans and the lowly rank of Waldheim, Scheide said in a statement.

Israel television broadcast more than three hours of the mock trial, including the verdict, into Monday morning. Newspapers and radio in the Jewish state prominently carried stories about it.

WJC General Secretary Israel Singer told Israel Radio the broadcast showed that in any event Waldheim was a liar who expected the world to believe he was innocent because he only followed orders.

"We conclude unanimously that the evidence which has been put before us is not enough to make probable that Lieutenant Waldheim committed any of the war crimes alleged against him in this inquiry," the panel said in the broadcast ruling.

Ortega: No changes in peace proposals

MANAGUA (Agencies) — Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega said Sunday the Sandinista government would not negotiate power-sharing or democracy with contra rebel leaders at peace talks due to resume Tuesday.

He also said in a speech to a crowd of about 600 pro-government workers that the Sandinista revolution would outlast U.S. President Ronald Reagan, whose term is due to expire in January 1989.

"We are not negotiating political power with the contras we are not negotiating democracy with the contras," Ortega said, standing beneath pictures of Marx, Lenin and Cesar Augusto Sandino, an early 20th-century nationalist for whom Nicaragua's 1979 revolution was named.

Ortega said all the signs were that no accords to end the seven-year-old war would be reached at a fourth round of peace talks in Managua June 7-9, but he said the meeting would not necessarily be the last.

At the most recent meeting in late May, the Sandinistas said they would guarantee democratic reforms demanded by the contras by allowing them a part in talks on Nicaragua's political future.

He said contra military commander Enrique Bermudez, a colonel in the National Guard of former dictator Anastasio Somoza, was a criminal and "We do not accept this type of discussion (about democracy) with those people."

"If in this meeting there are no positive results, as everything in-

dicates, if the contras refuse to put down their arms in September ... if they decide to renew the war ... the responsibility will be of the North American government," Ortega said.

Contra rebels are returning to Nicaragua from Honduras to prepare for renewed fighting if the next round of peace talks with the Sandinista government fails, a rebel commander said.

"At this moment they (the contras) are crossing the border to await instructions from the high command," Oscar Manuel Sobalvarro Garcia, a member of the seven-man contra high command, said in an interview along the Honduras-Nicaragua border Saturday.

Ortega said Reagan had just seven months left to try to overthrow the Nicaraguan Government.

"What he has not been able to do in more than seven years, he is not going to do in seven months. That means he's not going to liquidate the Nicaraguan revolution, that he's going to go but the Nicaraguan revolution will stay," Ortega said.

The government has agreed to discuss some of the contras' demands for political changes they say would bring about democratic reforms in Nicaragua. Those include freedom of the press, the lifting of all political restrictions, separation of the ruling Sandinista National Liberation Front from the army and the government, constitutional changes and electoral and judicial reforms.

The two sides agreed to extend a 60-day ceasefire that was set to expire May 31 until the next round of talks. Ortega previously announced a unilateral 30-day truce extension.

'Phantom' wins best musical

NEW YORK (AP) — The British musical, "The Phantom of the Opera," the latest box office smash from Andrew Lloyd Webber, dominated the early going of the 1988 Tony Awards Sunday, sweeping all three technical awards as well as prize for featured actress, and best musical.

"These things do happen," exulted Judy Kaye, who plays the discarded Diva in "Phantom" and who won the award for featured actress in a musical.

Maria Bjornson was a double winner, picking up Tonys for the eye-popping sets and the lavish costumes she designed for "Phantom" while Andrew Bridge, who did the show's lighting, also was honoured.

Bill McCutcheon, a comic gangster in "Anything Goes," received the award for featured actor in a musical.

The acting awards were split among several plays with Ron Silver, the movie mogul of "Speed-the-Plow" taking best actor; Joan Allen, the bereaved dancer in "Burn this" got the award for best actress; B.D. Wong, the transvestite opera singer in "Madame Butterfly" got the award for featured actor; and L. Scott Caldwell of "Joe Turner's Come and Gone" featured actress.

John Dexter captured a Tony for his direction of "Madame Butterfly." Neither Dexter nor Bjornson was on hand to accept the Tony in the televised, awards programme at the Minskoff Theatre.

No dancing without a license

NICHOLASVILLE, Kentucky (AP) — Fingers are snapping but feet are staying firmly planted on the ground in Nicholasville, where police are enforcing an ordinance that bans public dancing without a license. "I stood there and cried," said Boots Nelson, a patron at the next door saloon who was not allowed to dance when a band played her favourite song. "The band was playing their hearts out, but people were afraid to tap their feet for fear the law would come in."

Handmade "No Dancing" signs were posted in the bar after police last week cited owner Billy Davis for violating the ordinance. Officials said it was apparently the first time the ordinance had been enforced in the town of 10,000 residents. Police chief Carl Perkins said enforcement began because bars that have live bands may not meet city and state fire codes.

'Nazi Bar' opens in Bangkok

BANGKOK (AP) — One of Bangkok's newest nightspots, the "Nazi Bar" lures clientele with decor straight out of the Third Reich. On the walls are caricatures of Adolf Hitler, photos of Nazi storm troopers and cartoons of Italian fascist leader Benito Mussolini and Hitler's faithful follower Hermann Goering.

Thais in trendy clothes are served drinks by waiters wearing swastika armbands from bottles of liquor with a swastika motif, seemingly oblivious to strong objections raised by some foreigners. Manager Aor Sarayuk said he and his business partners focused on the Nazi theme because of its "powerful, catchy name and emotive appeal."

"For us, the bar is purely business-oriented, apolitical, artistic and entertaining," he said. But several foreigners have expressed strong objections in letters to the English-language Bangkok Post newspaper, saying the bar glorifies a brutal regime.

Jackson makes the girls swoon

VIENNA (AP) — A total of 130 fans, all girls, fainted and needed medical attention during U.S. pop star Michael Jackson's third concert on his current European tour, police reported. Some 50,000 fans watched the concert staged at Vienna's Prater soccer stadium last week, but there were no fights or other violence. "The spectators were quiet and disciplined," said a police spokesman, adding the only problem was traffic chaos after the show. In a critical comment, the Austria Press Agency (APA) said Jackson "moves spasmodically, like a puppet and does everything to be what the mechanisms of show business demand (him to be)." "The whole thing runs off like a sequence of video clips — you are supposed to watch and be stunned and enthused. Like in Disneyland," said the APA report.

Man to let bull loose in China shop

PALMERTON NORTH, New Zealand (AP) — Shop owner Grant Burnett plans to let a bull loose in his China shop this month — literally. Spurred by constant bull-in-a-China-shop jokes from customers, Burnett said he will release a giant Hereford bull in his shop on June 16 as a stunt. If the bull goes berserk, Burnett risks losing up to \$60,000 worth of China. Burnett said the bull would not be drugged. It will be led into the store by its owner, local farmer Bill Bly. An insurance company has agreed to cover the cost of broken China for an undisclosed premium, Burnett said. "This is something I've wanted to do for years," Burnett told reporters.

'Take down pin-ups' order sparks riot

LONDON (AP) — An order for prisoners to remove pin-ups from walls sparked a riot early Monday in which three inmates escaped and others set buildings ablaze at a jail on England's northwest coast, officials said. "There was a rampage by about 100 prisoners after they were told to take down pin-ups. They smashed their bottles and started fires," said a spokesman for the Home Office which runs the police and prisons. Scores of police with dogs joined prison guards to encircle Haverigg Prison near Milton, 452 kilometres from London. "No demands were issued by the prisoners and the governor (warden) is giving them a chance to cool off," the spokesman added.

Fiji detains forty in raid

SUVA, Fiji (AP) — Troops raided Indian businesses Monday and rounded up 40 people, including a former foreign minister, after police seized a huge shipment of Soviet-made weapons apparently smuggled from the Middle East.

Krishna Datt, a Fijian of Indian descent in the ousted govern-

ment of Timoci Bavadra, was among those detained because he visited the Soviet Union in 1985, the ministry of information said. It did not elaborate.

Government-controlled Radio Fiji said the arms haul included 93 automatic rifles, 10 light machine guns, 300 handgrenades, five rocket-launchers, 72

bayonets, two large drums of live ammunition and two pistols.

It said the weapons were found at several locations near the city of Nadi, on the western side of the main island of Viti Levu, a stronghold for the coalition government that was overthrown in a coup 13 months ago.

In Suva, soldiers raided at least six buildings housing Indian businesses, residents said.

The weapons were similar to a shipment seized in Australia a week ago that arrived from North Yemen and was destined for Fiji.

Bavadra has denied any involvement in the gunrunning affair.

Coup leader Sitiveni Rabuka has said the shipments were part of a foreign plot to destabilise the nation, but stopped short of accusing a particular country or organisation.

Meanwhile, residents said the army had increased its armed patrols in the capital, with soldiers standing guard at all the premises raided.

Judge rejects North's quest for documents

WASHINGTON (AP) — The judge in the Iran-contra case Monday rejected a defence request for top-secret government documents and again questioned whether Oliver North and three co-defendants could get a fair trial on conspiracy charges.

U.S. District Judge Gerhard Gesell turned down the defence's wide-ranging request for documents relating to such operations as U.S. intelligence-gathering in Iran and efforts to free American hostages in Lebanon.

But the judge again expressed reservations about whether the defendants could get a fair trial on charges they conspired to defraud the government by diverting profits from the U.S.-Iran arms sales to the Nicaraguan rebels.

"When a man is accused of a crime, he ought to be able to get on the stand and tell his side of the story if he wants to," Gesell said.

But that right could be restricted if the defendants want to say "I'd been doing these things time and time again in other covert operations with the approval of cabinet officials."

"I really expect that if the defendants take the stand... they are going to spill all over with classified information," Gesell said, adding that he had "no stomach" for censoring the defendants' testimony.

North, who was fired from the National Security Council staff, former National Security Adviser John Poindexter, and arms dealers Albert Hakim and retired Air Force Major General Richard V. Secord, are charged in three counts of the 23-count indictment returned in March.

Testimony about other covert operations the defendants may have participated in could be prohibited by the government's unwillingness to expose the information in court, Gesell said.

'Dangerous' toxic waste dumped in Africa

LAGOS, Nigeria (AP) — Ten European companies dumped more than 20 of the world's most dangerous industrial toxic wastes, including radio active material, near the oil terminal of Forcados, the Guardian newspaper reported Sunday.

The independent newspaper, which published photographs of the waste, said its two science correspondents discovered the dump. The newspaper said it had been alerted by letters from Nigerian students in Italy, who said some Italian companies had been secretly dumping the waste.

The Guardian also reported the waste had been brought into the country falsely under a permit granted by the government for the import of chemicals for construction projects. Forcados is about 242 kilometres south east of Lagos.

The Nigerian company that received the waste was still holding 1,500 metric tons of it, the newspaper said.

The chemicals included poisonous materials such as melamine wastes from Norway and polychlorinated biphenyls and ethyl acetate formaldehyde from Italy.

The Guardian quoted Italian ambassador Gianfranco Cognola as saying he had ordered an inquiry on learning of the incident and had given his findings to the Nigerian government.

Bombs thrown at Dhaka protesters

DHAKA (AP) — Militants hurled two homemade bombs and injured at least 10 people in a procession of some 2,000 who were protesting the government's plan to make Islam the state religion, police sources said Monday.

The assailants fled after attacking Hindu, Christian and Buddhist minorities in the procession Sunday at Barisal, 100 kilometres south of Dhaka, the sources said.

Police sources, speaking by telephone on condition of anonymity, said organisers of the protest march called the attack a "provocation" but did not blame any one group.

Last month, the government of President Hussain Muhammad Ershad initiated a bill in parliament that would make Islam the state religion in Bangladesh, where 85 per cent of 105 million people are Muslims.

The bill is expected to be acted upon in the next day or two, a source at the parliament's secretariat said Monday. Ershad's Jatiya Party holds 213 seats in the 300-member assembly and the bill appears assured of passage.

In a related development, students at Dhaka University and other colleges around the country boycotted classes for the second day Monday to press for withdrawal of the religion bill.

Philippine rebels issue threat to multinationals

MANILA (R) — Communist rebels threatened Monday to raid multinational companies if they refused to pay "revolutionary taxes."

The threat came one day after insurgents killed 14 soldiers and militiamen in the bloodiest guerrilla ambush this year.

Two other militiamen were wounded and one was kidnapped by the rebels during three hours of fighting in heavy rain Sunday on Negros Island, 550 kilometres south of Manila, a military report said.

The threat against multinational companies was made in a radio broadcast from a mountain hide-

out in nearby Quezon province. An unidentified guerrilla spokesman aired the threat in a two-way radio conversation with Quezon Governor Eddie Rodriguez broadcast live on the private station DZRH.

The rebel described multinational companies as "leeches" and threatened them with raids if they refused to pay "revolutionary taxes."

The military said the broadcast was made at the rebels' request. Rodriguez appealed to the rebels to release five soldiers captured by the communist New People's Army (NPA) June 3 when it raided a chicken farm



Jesse Jackson campaigning

Dukakis, Jackson wrap up campaign

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Jesse Jackson and Governor Michael Dukakis were wrapping up the long Democratic presidential primary campaign Monday with a final bid for votes in California, the biggest prize in Tuesday's four-state finale.

Vice President George Bush, who locked up the Republican nomination six weeks ago, was also campaigning Monday in California, with a series of appearances aimed at calling attention to the drug issue.

Dukakis is likely to clinch his party's nomination in the final round of contests Tuesday, which also includes races in northeastern New Jersey, plus the western states of Montana and New Mexico. He holds a huge delegate lead over Jackson, and is fewer than 300 delegates shy of the 2,081 needed to gain the Democratic nomination.

Dukakis, during a campaign swing through New Jersey, said of Jackson "... We are going to be working together, we are going to be campaigning together, we have a very strong belief in the importance of a Democratic victory this fall."

He said Jackson would be "very much involved in the campaign, as are other important party leaders."

In addition, some of those around Jackson are taking an aggressive tack on the subject of the number two spot on the

Democratic ticket. Dukakis has said Jackson deserves to be looked at as a possible running mate, but deserves no special consideration.

Jackson's campaign chairman, Willie Brown, said Sunday that Jackson ought to be offered a spot on the ticket.

"I think consideration means literally extending the opportunity to go on the ticket, and then it will be up to Mr. Jackson to determine whether or not he wishes to accept it," Brown said on the ABC broadcasting network.

Jackson played down the Brown comment, saying: "That's his point of view." But he told a church congregation Sunday that the Democratic Party "must make a commitment to empowerment — in the platform, in the party, on the ticket."

Dukakis, as he has been throughout the campaign, was careful to avoid criticising Jackson.

As for Jackson's vow to push to make certain issues part of the party platform, Dukakis said Sunday: "I don't see any deep division in the party at all."

Asked about his rival's plan to keep making appearances up through the convention, he told reporters in New Jersey: "I suspect he's going to be out there campaigning hard for the Democratic ticket this fall."

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Ramos denies presidential ambitions

MANILA (AP) — Defence Secretary Fidel Ramos denies speculation that he is interested in succeeding Corason Aquino as president. "I have denied before and I will deny it again," Ramos told reporters Sunday when asked if he were aiming at the presidency. Ramos was commenting on a statement by Senator Ernesto Maceda that the former military chief of staff was planning to run in the 1992 presidential elections. Maceda told reporters he was convinced Ramos would make a bid for the presidency but was keeping his plans secret. Aquino says he will not seek re-election.

Speculation about Ramos' presidential ambitions has surfaced periodically, most recently after his visit to the United States last month. Philippine commentators claimed Ramos went to the United States to bolster his international image and seek Washington's blessing if he runs for president.

Moscow pledges Olympic security

TOKYO (R) — U.S. Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci said Monday that the Soviet Union had indicated it would do everything possible to prevent trouble during the Seoul Olympics in September. Carlucci, who arrived in Japan last week after attending the Moscow summit, told a press luncheon that the summit discussions touched upon security at the Olympics and fears that North Korea might try to disrupt the games. "The Soviets point out that North Korea is an independent country, but they (the Soviet Union) like the rest of us, have an interest in seeing that the games are not disrupted," he said. "They have indicated they will do everything they can to see that the games are not disrupted," he added. Carlucci is due to leave Tuesday for South Korea where his talks are expected to be dominated by Olympic security concerns.

U.S. surveillance plane crashes

SUBIC NAVAL BASE, Philippines (AP) — A plane from the carrier USS Enterprise crashed in the South China Sea, killing at least two crewmen, the U.S. navy said Monday. Navy spokesman Lieutenant Robert Anderson said one of four crew members aboard the S-3 Viking anti-submarine plane was rescued and

another was missing after Sunday's crash. The surviving crewman was in stable but guarded condition, Anderson said. He said search operations were under way Monday for the missing crew member. Anderson said plane went down during routine training operations about 320 kilometres southeast of Hong Kong. The cause of the accident has not been determined, and names of the crew were withheld pending notification of relatives, he said.

London reviews prisoners' sentences

BELFAST, Northern Ireland (AP) — The sentences of all "special category" terrorist prisoners serving life terms in the British province will be reviewed, the British government announced Sunday. The life sentence review board will carry out the operation over the next six months and report back to Britain's Northern Ireland Secretary Tom King, the Northern Ireland office said. The "special category" status for Irish nationalist and Protestant loyalist terrorist convicts was introduced in 1972 after a prolonged hunger strike by inmates at Belfast's Maze Prison demanding to be treated as political prisoners. Their special privileges include political status and allow them to avoid prison work, wear their own clothes, have extra visits and food parcels and to live in isolated groups. In 1976, the "special category" was ended for crimes committed after that date and in 1980 no more prisoners were admitted to the category.

Jackson's half-brother arrested

GREENVILLE, South Carolina (AP) — Democratic presidential hopeful Jesse Jackson's half-brother has been charged with hiring someone to attack a witness to a slaying, police said Sunday. Noah Robinson, 45, was arrested late Saturday night and charged with being an accessory to a felony. Greenville police detective Keith Morton said Sunday. "We think he was responsible for the solicitation of the act and took part in the arranging," Morton said. Robinson is suspected of hiring the person who slashed and stabbed Janice Denise Rosemond in December 1987. Police say she witnessed the 1986 slaying of Leroy Barber, who had worked for Robinson. Jackson, campaigning Sunday in California, said: "I don't know anything about the case."